





## Jordanian doctors to attend MENA summit despite JMA ban - Batayneh

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Health Minister Aref Batayneh said Wednesday that despite a ban by the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) against its members participating in the Middle East and North Africa economic summit (MENA) Jordanian doctors will attend the meeting.

Speaking in a television programme "New Day," the minister said he had received telephone calls from Jordanian physicians expressing desire to attend the conference to reflect Jordan's medical achievements to the world.

An 11-member committee formed by the government last month to represent the Jordanian medical community at the MENA meeting had received a letter from the JMA instructing them not to attend the conference as that would violate the association's rules.

Committee member Sa'eb Hammoudi said that his committee members had no alternative but to abide by the JMA rules and so they decided not to take part in the event.

But he told the Jordan Times on Wednesday that he was not aware of any doctors who would take part in the conference in their personal capacity.

Along with the other Jordanian professional associations, the JMA has voted against normalisation with Israel and against professional contacts with Israelis, added Dr. Hammoudi.

Dr. Batayneh said on television that he would see to it that Jordanian doctors would attend the conference despite the JMA ban. Expressing his view that the JMA should not restrict the doctors' participation in the conference and must restrict its work to professional matters.

In an address to physicians from the Royal Medical Services on Tuesday, His Majesty King Hussein implicitly criticised the JMA.

He said that it was probably wrong to force physicians to join the association and he wondered if such regulation was constitutional or democratic. He said he would ask a legal panel to determine the constitutionality of compulsory membership in associations for all practising professionals.

The Supreme Court has started examining a case which the Health Ministry has filed against the JMA committee in charge of the elections of the association's board for the 1995-1997 period.

The head of the prosecutor general office, Fuad Abu Zeineh, who filed the case on behalf of Health Minister Batayneh, said that he was contesting a decision by the JMA board to consider Dr.

Farouk Abdul Rahim from the West Bank as the 10th member of the association. Dr. Abu Zeineh said Dr. Abdul Rahim was elected by the JMA in violation of article 27 of the JMA law since no West Bank member should be represented in the JMA after the severance of Jordan's legal and administrative ties with the West Bank in 1988.

He also noted that the JMA had elected nine members for the board and left the 10th seat for a West Bank candidate in violation of instructions passed to the association by the health minister.

Defence lawyer Naim Madani countered that the JMA law does not authorise the minister to interfere in the association's affairs or its elections processes, adding that the severing of ties and the minister's instructions remain as instructions and not an amendment to the Constitution.

## Expellee crisis on border stifles Egypt-Libya trade

SALLOUM (AFP) — Tripoli's expulsion of Palestinians has brought trade across the once active Libyan-Egyptian border to a standstill, with Libyan authorities impounding goods crossing into Egypt.

The Salloom border post, where thousands usually pass daily taking goods in and out of Libya, was so empty that customs officials spent Tuesday playing football.

"What else do we have to do? There's no one crossing," one official told AFP. "All travellers coming from Libya have arrived here without goods and have only been allowed to cross with one cardboard box each," Ibrahim Abbas, the head border officer at Salloom, said.

"The passengers tell us that customs at Libya's Misad post took their merchandise from them," Mr. Abbas said.

The border crossing has been a vital trade outlet for Libya, under a United Nations arms embargo since 1992 for its alleged support for terrorism.

On Monday only five cars and one bus of Egyptians arrived in Salloom and only nine cars, four of them Libyan, waited to cross, as traders stayed away from the troubled border, a Salloom official said.

Ibrahim Mohammad Ibra-

him, an Egyptian who arrived from Libya, said: "The behaviour of Libyan customs officials changed in early October when the problem of the expelled Palestinians being trapped on the border began."

"They took all my merchandise before I could cross, a total value of 30 thousand Egyptian pounds (\$9,000)," he said.

Since early October, 900 deportees have been trapped in no man's land between Salloom and Misad because Egypt refused them entry after Tripoli stepped up a campaign to expel the 30,000 Palestinians living on its soil.

Ismael Al Sayed Osman, an Egyptian trader, said Libyan officials told him as they took his goods: "This is what you get for not letting the Palestinians through."

Egypt has refused to let the 900 enter unless assured they will continue directly to the Gaza Strip or Jordan.

The stranded have closed the road across the border several times, in protests after Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi called on Egypt on Wednesday to let the Palestinians pass to go home to Palestine.

Mr. Ibrahim said the Misad officials gave him a receipt for his goods, telling him he would have to go back to Benghazi, 500 kilometres

west of the border, to get them back.

Mohammad Ibrahim Suleiman, a Cairone who has traded across the border for two years, said: "I decided to return to Egypt and not to continue my latest trip to Libya after I learned about the impoundings."

He said he would not "risk buying goods again until the Palestinian problem is solved" at the border.

He said money changing companies in Benghazi and Libya and Marsa Matruh in Egypt have begun doing direct cash transfers between them to help traders afraid of having their money taken by Libyan border officials.

"I had 3,000 Libyan dinars (approximately \$800) taken from me at the border on my last trip," Mr. Suleiman said.

Another merchant, Sayed Mohammad Saleh, said his bus waited 15 hours at Misad to cross. "Then the customers officials took away all the merchandise on the bus."

Mr. Saleh said traffic officials at checkpoints in Benghazi "also harassed us, demanding bribes to not hold up the buses."

Egyptian exports to Libya in 1994 amounted to \$4.2 million, while imports from Libya equalled \$4.7 million. Libya is Egypt's third largest Arab trading partner, after Saudi Arabia and Syria.

## Cyprus vows to continue arming itself

UNITED NATIONS (AFP)

Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides said Tuesday that his country will continue building up its military as long as Turkey turns down his offer for both sides to disarm.

The comment came as U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali met with the Cypriot leader to discuss "reasons for the current blockade in the efforts to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem," U.N. spokesman Joe Sills said.

Mr. Clerides proposed to Dr. Ghali other ways in which a climate could be created for resumed negotiations with Turkey, which were halted one year ago, Mr. Sills said without giving specifics.

The Cypriot leader said Dr. Ghali had not yet decided on what his next move will be, but insisted that Cyprus has made as many concessions as it can in attempting to solve the problem.

"I'm a bit at a loss with what to offer," he told journalists. "Any gesture I have made is blocked because there is no will... from one or two (Turkish) leaders."

## '197' offers answers to most questions on rules, procedures

By Rana Hussein

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Public Security Department (PSD) on Wednesday announced a new automated telephone service that will minimise procedures and ease pressure on police and public service departments.

Citizens and visitors can call "197" for information in Arabic or English from an answering system or by fax. Colonel Jamal Momani, director of the public relations department at the PSD, told a press conference.

"We have established this new service to ease the procedures for citizens seeking information as well as employees in those departments," he said.

The service will cover the following: information on travelling conditions and residence permits for West Bankers and Gazans, bridges across the River Jordan, procedures for obtaining and renewing driving and vehicle licences.

The service also provide information on licensing

weapon, school trips, pilgrimage, driving with foreign licences, car rentals, car dealers, parking areas etc.

The service also includes general information on traffic violations, accidents, complaints, statistical information, road conditions, certificate of good conduct, certificate of no criminal record, military conscription, termination of services, foreign affairs, and first-time residence permits.

According to Col. Momani pamphlets on the new service will be available at public and governmental departments.

Col. Momani said that the PSD had also started a new approach to minimise casualties from festive firings.

He said that the department would send congratulations cards for families planning weddings. These cards include advice against the use of live ammunition, loud speakers, and unorganised processions at weddings. It will also offer advice on choosing the right place to erect a tent and how to cooperate with the authorities.

## ICRC hopes to unveil conditions at Khiam prison

BEIRUT (AFP) — International aid workers are hoping that unprecedented access to one of the Middle East's most notorious jails will shed light on what has been happening behind closed doors.

"We will finally be able to do our work," said Rolin Wavre, from the Middle East office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at its Geneva headquarters.

The ICRC got its first glimpse of the inside of the Israeli-controlled Khiam prison in the South Lebanon "security zone" on Monday and announced it was determined to uncover conditions there.

The six-member team who entered the prison — where torture is said to be practiced — included a doctor. They have already started to investigate "the treatment, material and psychological conditions" of detainees.

About 250 prisoners, mostly Lebanese, are held without trial, some for more than 10 years, in the jail run by Israel's proxy militia in Lebanon, the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Most of the detainees are anti-Israeli fighters or people suspected by the SLA and Israeli intelligence services of anti-Israeli activity. They also include women.

"We were willing to allow visits a long time ago on condition that the 20 SLA prisoners held by the (Iranian-backed) Hizbollah also be allowed visits," said an SLA spokesman who declined to be named.

He said the SLA was now

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Well-armed drug gang smashed in UAE

DUBAI (AFP) — Police smashed an international drug gang in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), arresting nine people and seizing 37 kilogramme (81 pounds) of hashish and one kilogramme of heroin, a newspaper said Wednesday. The gang members, including a veiled woman, had been jailed previously for fraud, drug dealing or theft and had been armed with Kalashnikov rifles. Major Matar Al Mubairi, Abu Dhabi's anti-drugs chief, told the Gulf News daily. The suspects, who included UAE nationals as well as citizens from other unnamed countries, also used mobile phones to communicate with each other and producers abroad, he added. "They would use various ports on the UAE coasts to smuggle the drugs into the country, store them in one emirate, then distribute them in another," he said.

### Princess Anne to visit Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Britain's Princess Anne will visit Kuwait on Nov. 15 for the second time since the emirate was freed from Iraqi occupation in 1991, the official KUNA news agency said. The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, visited London in May. British forces took part in the U.S.-led military coalition that freed Kuwait from seven months of Iraqi occupation in February 1991.

### Israel allows return of 3 Fateh chiefs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The Israeli government has allowed the return to the Palestinian territories of three leading activists of the Fateh faction, Israel Radio announced Wednesday. Abu Firas Liftawi and Mahmoud Al Alul arrived on Tuesday and Zaidin Al Sharif was to follow Wednesday. The radio said all three had been involved in anti-Israeli attacks. They could be appointed governors of the towns of Tulkarem, Ramallah and Nablus, which Israeli troops are to evacuate under the West Bank autonomy accord signed on Sept. 28, it said.

### Quake shakes Aegean coastal city of Izmir

IZMIR (AP) — A moderate quake shook this coastal city early Wednesday morning but did not cause any damage or injuries. The quake had a preliminary magnitude of four, and its epicentre is about 90 kilometres west of Izmir, Kandilli observatory in Istanbul said. Quakes have been shaking western Turkey for the last two months. A strong quake of magnitude six killed 90 people in Dinar, some 350 kilometres east of Izmir, 10 days ago. Turkey's coastal and eastern regions lie atop an earthquake prone belt, known as the Anatolian fault.

### U.S. company to conduct study for Aqaba airport

AMMAN (AP) — Jordan has awarded the U.S. company Lockheed Martin a \$500,000 agreement to provide a feasibility study for expanding an airport in the Gulf of Aqaba to serve both the Kingdom and Israel, an official said Wednesday. Mahmoud Taha, an engineer at the Civil Aviation Authority, said the Virginia-based company will submit the study to the governments of Jordan and Israel in six months. The Washington-based Trade and Development Agency has agreed to finance the study. "Under the agreement, the study will cover runways, airport buildings, equipment and other facilities that will be available at the airport," Mr. Taha said.

### Israeli troops blow up Lebanese house

MARJAYOUN (AP) — Israeli forces punched out of their self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon Wednesday, blew up a house and killed a guerrilla, security sources said. They said two other guerrillas and an Israeli soldier were wounded in the clash, which followed the blast some 25 metres outside the central sector of the occupied enclave. The Israeli army confirmed the clash and the casualties but made no mention of dynamiting the deserted two-floor building near the village of Kfar Tibnit which guerrillas allegedly used to attack Israeli targets. An Israeli spokesman said the wounded Israeli soldier was evacuated by helicopter to Israel. Israeli radio said he had sustained head wounds.

### Headless sphinx, torso found in sea

CAIRO (AP) — A headless sphinx, a pharaoh's torso and part of an obelisk are the latest Egyptian treasures pulled from their murky grave in the Mediterranean by a French-Egyptian team. The divers are capping a three-month project of mapping an area of the sea off the Mediterranean port of Alexandria by removing about 30 statues and monuments scattered amid the ruins of the Pharos Lighthouse, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Last week, divers pulled out the 2,000-year-old red-granite torso of a Greek goddess. The divers tied a parachute to the statue and inflated it, bringing it to the surface. A tugboat then pulled the statue to shore and a crane lifted it from the water. But since then, strong winds and high seas have slowed the removal of other pieces. On Tuesday, a break in the weather allowed the team to remove the sphinx, obelisk and pharaoh's torso.

### Bedouin 'spy' for Israel held in Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — An Egyptian bedouin suspected of spying for Israel has been imprisoned since 1993 for questioning by authorities, legal sources said Wednesday, when his detention was ordered extended. Amer Salman, the owner of a farm in Rafah in the northern Sinai peninsula, was originally arrested for "giving the Israeli army information on Egyptian troop movement in the Sinai," the sources said. Since then, his internment has been renewed every 45 days without his case coming to trial. The public prosecutor ordered on Wednesday another 45-day extension, saying interrogations were not complete, the sources said.

## Television comes to life to family of freed teenager

DHEISHE (AFP) — Shadi Maali, a young Palestinian prisoner, brought the television screen to life when he walked in to surprise his family in this West Bank refugee camp.

His parents, nine brothers and three sisters had no idea the 19-year-old would be among the 900 prisoners freed by Israel on Tuesday because he belongs to a group opposed to the peace process.

Just moments before he walked through the door his family was huddled around the television watching news of the releases and the Israeli army's withdrawal from a village near Nablus that set in motion the West Bank autonomy accord of Sept. 28.

They could not believe their eyes and his mother almost fainted with delight to have her son back after 16 months in prison.

A member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which rejects the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO's) autonomy deals with Israel, he was serving a three-year term for hurling a petrol-bomb at an Israeli army patrol.

"It's the best thing that has ever happened to me," said the mother, Suad, with tears in her eyes. She would not let go of her returning son's hand.

"I was supposed to visit him in jail. I was very pes-

sistent about his prospects for release because he belongs to the opposition."

"Also, I thought the prisoners to be freed were to be taken to Gaza and Jericho," the areas which gained self-rule already in May 1994, the 38-year-old mother explained.

Shadi said he was only given a few hours notice before his release from Hebron prison.

"I feel I'm in a dream. I can't believe my eyes," said his father Issa, 40, who works at a petrol station in Israel, when the Palestinian territories are not sealed off.

The father telephoned relatives and friends, and with-

in minutes dozens of well-wishers flooded the household near the town of Bethlehem.

"I was happy only once in jail, when I saw on television the residents of my camp tearing down the wire fence after the autonomy deal was signed in Washington," said Shadi.

"But, unfortunately, the Israeli army has put the fence back up and the camp has turned into a big prison again," he said.

Shadi said the initial phase of prisoner releases, out of a total of 6,000 whom Israel holds, was not enough. "Victory will only come the day when all Palestinian prisoners are free again," he said.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

#### PROGRAMME TWO

13:00 *It's The Happy Professor*  
13:30 *Firman Sam*  
14:00 *My Secret Identity*  
14:30 *NBA*  
15:00 *The New Leave It to Beaver*  
15:15 *Take Your Pick*  
16:00 *Documentary*  
17:00 *French programmes*  
19:00 *News in French*  
19:30 *News Headlines*  
21:00 *The New Avengers*  
22:00 *News in English*  
22:25 *Feature film*

#### PRAYER TIMES

04:15 *Fajr*  
15:12 *(Sunrise)*  
15:22 *Dhuhr*  
16:30 *Asr*  
17:12 *Maghreb*  
18:29 *Isha*

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swithest, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624592,  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 623366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Moderate weather conditions are expected during the weekend with winds northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be fine with winds northerly moderate and seas calm.

#### Min/Max temp.

Amman 20/31  
Aqaba 20/31  
Deserts 11/29  
Jordan Valley 18/32

#### Yesterday's high temperatures:

Amman 25 Aqaba 30 Humidity readings: Amman 32 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ghaleb Zuwaideh 836911  
Dr. Wesam Hazin 794774  
Dr. Fakhri Bittisi 663412  
Dr. Khalil Al Sayid 890280  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Fardous pharmacy 78336  
Al Asena pharmacy 837055  
Nairoj pharmacy 636762  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yaacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shmehani pharmacy 637660  
Nairoj pharmacy 636762  
Najih pharmacy 847632

#### IRBID:

Dr. Ahmad Quni 815615  
Al Ouds pharmacy (—)

#### ZARQA:

Dr. Akram Haddad 985550  
Khalil pharmacy 985417

#### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 837111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate

Rescue 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192 621111/637777  
Fire Brigade 617101  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Price Complaints 605800  
Water and Sewerage 661176  
Complaints 797467  
Amman Municipality 661912  
Complaints 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

#### Electric Power

Company 636281  
RJ Flight Information 08-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussini Medical Centre 813813/82  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 842816

Al-Khali Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shmehani 664171/4  
Shmehani Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 843845  
Al-Muasher Hospital 6672719  
The Islamic, Abdali 661171/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajra 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6  
Army, Shmehani 661171/5  
Queen Alia Hospital 6024090  
Anat Hospital 607155  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 845199

#### ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983533  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
16:00 *Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)*  
18:00 *Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)*  
18:10 *Cape Town, Tunis (RJ)*  
18:15 *Alibers (RJ)*  
19:00 *Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)*  
19:40 *Rome (RJ)*  
23:15 *Larnaca (RJ)*  
23:15 *Paris, Aqaba (add) (RJ)*

#### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)53204. S, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
06:30 *Aden (RJ)*  
07:15 *Sana'a (RJ)*  
08:45 *New Delhi (RJ)*  
09:05 *Dhahran, Riyadh (RJ)*  
09:35 *Beirut (RJ)*  
09:35 *Muscat, Doha (RJ)*  
10:00 *Columbo (RJ)*  
10:45 *New York, Amsterdam (RJ)*  
16:50 *London (RJ)*  
17:30 *Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)*  
18:00 *Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)*  
18:10 *Cape Town, Tunis (RJ)*  
18:15 *Alibers (RJ)*  
19:00 *Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)*  
19:40 *Rome (RJ)*  
23:15 *Larnaca (RJ)*  
23:15 *Paris, Aqaba (add) (RJ)*

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:40 *Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)*  
14:40 *Riyadh (SV)*  
17:15 *Damascus, Doha (EK)*

12:00 *Riyadh (SV)*  
14:40 *Doha (GF)*  
16:10 *Dubai (EK)*  
17:00 *Rome (AZ)*  
18:45 *Paris, Damascus (AF)*  
19:35 *Cairo (MS)*  
20:10 *Beirut (ME)*  
23:20 *Istanbul (TK)*  
23:50 *London (KL)*  
01:25 *Amsterdam (KL)*

#### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:40 *Beirut (RJ)*  
10:25 *Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)*  
11:00 *Toronto, Montreal (RJ)*  
11:00 *Aqaba, Paris (add) (RJ)*  
11:15 *Rome (AZ)*  
11:30 *Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)*  
12:10 *Paris (RJ)*  
12:10 *Egyptian*  
12:25 *Athens (RJ)*  
12:25 *London (RJ)*  
19:35 *Larnaca (RJ)*  
20:20 *Jeddah (RJ)*  
20:25 *Bahrain, Doha (RJ)*  
21:30 *Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)*  
21:30 *Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)*

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

14:30 *Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Muscat (GF)*  
14:40 *Riyadh (SV)*  
17:15 *Damascus, Doha (EK)*

#### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 700/500  
Banana 680  
Banana (Mukammal) 621  
Cabbage 210/150  
Carrot 480/330  
Cauliflower 330/230  
Cucumbers (large) 300/1



**By Jean-Claude Elias**  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

**AMMAN** — Cultural cooperation is not the least of the European Union's exponents. Among the symbols that contribute to strengthening its unity is the European Community Chamber orchestra (ECCO).

The ensemble will perform this Friday at the Prince Hassan Auditorium, University of Jordan, and will hold a workshop for students at the National Music Conservatory /Noor Al Hussein Foundation on Saturday. ECCO's current tour is taking them to Syria, Egypt, Israel and Jordan.

The orchestra, whose patron is Spain's Queen Sofia, gave its first concert in 1981. ECCO members are usually European, talented young musicians, selected among top prize winners and virtuosos. The ensemble also supports well known soloists. Violinist Tasmin Little, horn player Michael Thompson and flautist Giulio Gianelli Viscardi have all appeared with ECCO in festivals and concerts.

“Europe in complete harmony,” “perfectly shaped string tone,” “ECCO sparkles” are but some of what the papers have said about them.

The ECCO tour in Jordan is organised by the Delegation of the European Commission along with EU member states embassies and cultural centres. All proceeds from the performance will be donated to charity.

primitive sculpture with the sleek contemporaneity of abstract design. Their effect on the viewer is twofold: a feeling of womblike harmony and security on the one hand, and the excitement of a latent creative force on the other," wrote American Art critic Anne Mullin Burnham in the magazine 'Arab's Perspective'.

In both her sculptures and her drawings, the artist relies entirely on authentic, natural materials. The basic shapes—the square, circle, rectangle and cylinder—which she uses in her sculptures are replicated in

her ink and pencil drawings.

"Because I am a sculptor, the drawings come out in sculptural form; they come from the same source," the artist explains the similarity.

Commenting on her exhibition at the Darat Al Funun, Ms. Saudi said that "it seemed like a nice idea to say good-bye to Amman by showing my large experience of 30 years."

She said that although she was leaving, she was still willing to be called to "do something for Amman". In fact, she added, "several of the sculptures on display at

the exhibition are like a model for large outdoor sculptures, up to 20 metres in height."

The exhibition, which opened Oct.7, will run until Nov.2.

The Arab poet Adonis wrote the introduction to the brochure accompanying the exhibition. He says: "Between the moulding hand and the moulded matter,

The chisel moves inhabited with the body's desires. Is it another hand within the hand?"



## Major's Party pushes for huge trans-Atlantic free trade zone

BLACKPOOL, England (AP) — Britain will push for the creation of a huge trans-Atlantic free trade area stretching from Germany to the American west coast, Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said Tuesday.

"Atlantic free trade will be a major objective of this government and our party," Mr. Rifkind told the annual conference of the governing Conservative Party.

It was the first of a series of policy initiatives that cabinet ministers are due to announce in this northwest English resort.

Prime Minister John Major hopes the four-day conference, under the slogan "Our Nation's Future — Conservative," will revive his government's fortunes.

The Conservatives are at record levels of unpopularity, divided over relations with continental Europe, and widely regarded by voters as out of ideas and listless after 16 years in power.

The meeting came a week after the burgeoning opposition Labour Party endorsed a sharp shift to the centre.

Mr. Rifkind envisaged an expanded free trade area

encompassing the 15-nation European Union and the North Atlantic Free Trade Association of the United States, Canada and Mexico.

On Europe, Mr. Rifkind struck a robust tone aimed at the strong anti-European streak among party activists.

He said a Labour government would accept each move toward further integration of the European Union, while Mr. Major's government will scrutinise every proposal.

"We will do so by a cool assessment of where the balance of British interest is to be found," said Mr. Rifkind.

"Either Britain will have a government that is prepared to be unpopular and occasionally isolated in defence of British interests, or it will have a government that will give in when the going gets tough."

To the dismay of the party's liberal pro-European wing, defence Secretary Michael Portillo also emphasised British resistance to ceding powers to the European Union Headquarters in the Belgian capital, Brussels.

"We must not allow Brussels to control our defence policy," said Mr. Portillo.

"It would be absurd, as some of our partners are urging, to try to merge our defence cooperation into the European Community."

"Britain is blessed with very brave soldiers, sailors and airmen, willing to give their lives for Britain, not for Brussels," Mr. Portillo, who received a lengthy ovation, said.

His nationalist message was music to the ears of those Conservatives whose scorn for what they saw as Mr. Major's conciliatory stance towards Europe led them to back an abortive challenge to his leadership in July.

Former Finance Minister Norman Lamont, once Mr. Major's friend but a foe since he was sacked in May 1993, said the tide had turned decisively against those in the party who favoured closer European links culminating in a single currency.

"They are vanishing as fast as the snow with the coming spring," Mr. Lamont told a meeting on

the conference fringe.

But some moderate Conservatives despaired at the anti-European tone and were looking to Mr. Major's deputy, pro-European Michael Heseltine, to redress the balance when he addresses the conference.

Peter Temple-Morris, a prominent member of the centre-left of the party, accused Mr. Portillo of "ignoring the realities". He said defence cooperation was a matter of inter-governmental collaboration and not for the European Union to dictate.

"It has nothing to do with Brussels. Brussels does not pretend it controls our defence policy," he said.

Labour's Tony Blair, whose party enjoys an opinion poll lead of about 30 percentage points over the Conservatives, blasted the Conservatives for pandering to anti-European sentiment.

"Nothing showed that more clearly than Mr. Portillo's extreme, juvenile and ill-informed anti-European tirade, which showed a complete ignorance of Britain's defence history and defence needs," the Labour leader said.



British Prime Minister John Major (left) applauds Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind on his speech to the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool (AFP photo)

## Yeltsin renews criticism of Kozyrev

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin has renewed his attack on Russia's Foreign Ministry, a top aide said, again raising a cloud over the political future of Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev.

The 44-year-old Kozyrev, foreign minister for five years, has been under fire from Mr. Yeltsin and parliament over policy in the Balkans crisis where Russia's voice has often been ignored by the United States and other Western powers.

Chief presidential aide Viktor Ilyushin told ITAR-TASS news agency that the ministry came in for harsh criticism at a Kremlin meeting Tuesday between Mr. Yeltsin and his aides.

Mr. Ilyushin said several ministries and government departments had been under fire at the meeting for "serious shortcomings in execu-

tive discipline."

"Great disquiet was expressed in an exchange of opinions about the activity of the Russian Foreign Ministry," he added.

Asked if this could herald changes in the ministry, Mr. Ilyushin added: "The president is not in the habit of acting blindly in personnel matters."

Mr. Yeltsin last month said he was not satisfied with the way the Foreign Ministry drafted Russia's policy on former Yugoslavia and said "consequences would be drawn" unless the ministry improved.

The State Duma (lower chamber) has accused Mr. Kozyrev of discrediting the president and the country by ineffective performance and called for him to be sacked.

Mr. Kozyrev, while rejecting charges of not pursuing

a robust policy, has replied in the past by saying that Russia's effectiveness on the diplomatic stage has been adversely affected by the economic climate.

He says the miserable pay levels of diplomats in Russia has meant that many experienced diplomats have quit to pursue new careers in banking or in private companies. The average wage for a Foreign Ministry employee is less than \$100 a month.

Despite his criticism, Mr. Yeltsin has not shown any sign of wishing to move against his foreign minister now. Diplomats say the Kremlin chief — to whom Mr. Kozyrev is directly responsible — is in any case unlikely to make such a key change just two months before a parliamentary election.

## Researchers look on the sunny side of life

ATLANTA — Too much sun can increase the risk of skin cancer, but a few minutes of sun a day can produce enough Vitamin D to help fight other types of cancer, researchers said. "The exposure of only a small area of our body, such as face, arms or legs, to sunlight is sufficient to raise the blood levels of Vitamin D," reported a team of researchers from the Boston University Medical Centre. Boston University's Dr. Michael Holick called for "intelligent use of sunlight" to help people produce Vitamin D, needed for a healthy skeleton and to fight disease.

## Italy hunts for stolen art treasures

ROME — Italy launched a campaign to recover stolen art treasures when it published a catalogue of about 1,500 works, some masterpieces, which went missing during World War II. The works, many of which ended up in Nazi hands but whose current owners are unknown, include Roman statues, Renaissance paintings by Botticelli and Tintoretto and a marble faun's head ascribed to Michelangelo. Culture Minister Antonio Paolucci said the list had been drawn up 25 years ago but had remained unpublished for political reasons.

## Video dominates British film market

LONDON — Video sales and rentals dominate Britain's £1.8 billion (\$2.3 billion) film market, a report said. Cinemas accounted for only 17 per cent of consumer spending on films despite a rise in attendances. But 35 per cent went to video sales and 29 per cent to rentals, the Policy Studies Institute said in its cultural trends report. Movie subscription channels on satellite and cable took up the remaining 19 per cent. Most of those going to the movies were between 18 and 24, the report found. Eight per cent go two to three times a month.

## Ingmar Bergman to get award

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Sweden's director-producer Ingmar Bergman will be awarded the \$200,000 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize in New York, the Swedish News Agency (TT) said. Bergman, who has made over 40 movies during his career spanning cinema, theatre and opera, will be the second recipient of the award, set up by film star Lillian Gish in her will. She died in 1993 at the age of 94. According to her wishes, the prize, awarded last year to American architect Frank Gehry, is to be given to an artist who has contributed to beauty in the world and to humanity's amusement and understanding of life. Bergman's daughter with Norwegian actress Liv Ullmann, Linn Ullmann, will accept the award on his behalf.

## 439 kg pumpkin wins top prize

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A pumpkin weighing in at a whopping 963 pounds (439 kilograms) has won the International Pumpkin Association's annual contest. Paula Zehr, of New York state, earned the title for the second year in a row. She will receive \$3,000 and a trip to Japan's pumpkin festival next year. The association had hundreds of entries from Russia, Japan, Nova Scotia, England and the United States. Her huge squash will be displayed at the great pumpkin festival in San Francisco later this month.

## Judge decides against probe of Juppe in housing scandal

PARIS (AP) — An investigating judge has decided against launching a formal probe against French Prime Minister Alain Juppe in a housing scandal, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

Prosecutor Bruno Cote was expected to tell justice officials that Mr. Juppe had a "personal interest" in the affair, in which he and his son obtained low-rent city-owned apartments, Le Monde reported.

The newspaper said Mr. Cote decided to "close the investigation, but with a form of severe judiciary admonishment" as opposed to launching a formal probe.

A formal investigation could have led to Mr. Juppe's resignation four months after the Conservative premier took office. Juppe had been severely weakened by the scandal as well as a fall in the polls and a face-off with labour unions over his plan to freeze public sector salaries next year.

Financial markets had reeled in recent weeks because of the uncertainty, with stocks on the bourse slipping and the Franc losing ground against major currencies.

Despite a strike Tuesday by more than 5 million public sector employees, Mr. Juppe has held firm on the pay freeze to cut a massive

deficit. But his aides offered to talk with the unions.

Mr. Juppe last week said he and his family would move out of their city-owned apartments, the subject of a preliminary judicial investigation into whether Mr. Juppe abused power to lower the rent or pay for renovations.

Newspapers reported last week that when Mr. Juppe was assistant Paris mayor in charge of finances from 1989-1993, he had the authority to sign documents for Jacques Chirac, then mayor of Paris and now French president, which gave Mr. Juppe power over housing issues.

The conservative premier has been accused by a Paris taxpayers' association of cutting his son's rent on a city apartment and making the city pay 1 million francs (\$200,000) to renovate his own apartment.

Rent on Laurent Juppe's 88-square-metre apartment in the fashionable Saint Germain Des Pres neighbourhood was cut from 7,000 francs (\$1,400) to 6,000 francs (\$1,200) — about 30 per cent lower than market rates.

Mr. Juppe and Mr. Chirac previously were criticised for paying sub-market rent on their own apartments.

Meanwhile public approval of President

Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Juppe has crashed dramatically in the last month, a new opinion poll released Tuesday confirmed.

The monthly CSA poll for the daily Le Parisien, conducted on Oct. 6 and 7, found that Mr. Chirac's approval rating had slumped by 15 points to 37 per cent, with 55 per cent of voters saying they had a bad opinion of the president.

Mr. Juppe's collapse was even steeper. Public support for the embattled premier fell by 20 points to 32 per cent, while his disapproval rating soared by 21 points to 55 per cent.

The findings mirrored two surveys published last week.

They appeared to reflect both anger at the government's austerity budget and civil service pay restraint and the housing scandal.

Mr. Juppe has become the most unpopular prime minister after five months in office except for short-lived Socialist Premier Edith Cresson, who was France's first woman premier for 10 months in 1991-92.

The poll found that Socialist opposition politicians Jacques Delors, Jack Lang, Martine Aubry and Lionel Jospin were all more popular than anyone in the centre-right government.

## Kashmiris say 'no' to settlement with India — survey

NEW DELHI (AFP) — An overwhelming majority of Muslims in Kashmir oppose a settlement to the state's separatist conflict within the framework of the Indian constitution, an opinion poll published Wednesday said.

Seventy-seven per cent of 504 respondents in the Kashmir Valley answered "definitely not" when asked if a constitutional solution to the conflict was possible, said the survey in the inaugural issue of a weekly newsmagazine.

The new magazine, Outlook, said it was the first such opinion poll to be conducted in the violence-torn Kashmir Valley, where more than 12,000 people have died since 1989 by official count.

Twelve per cent said a constitutional settlement could "probably" solve the Kashmir problem while seven per cent answered "probably not" only two per cent thought a constitutional settlement to the conflict was possible.

Eighty per cent of those surveyed in the towns of Srinagar, Sopore, Baramulla, Bandipora and Anantnag last month said even free and fair legislative polls in Kashmir would not help in solving the problem.

On other issues, 90 per cent said human rights abuses by Indian troops were "very high," 72 per cent favoured Kashmir's independence instead of a merger with Pakistan and 66 per cent disapproved of growing Islamic fundamentalism.

Nearly 60 per cent of respondents also disapproved of kidnappings by Muslim separatists in Kashmir while 35 per cent argued that it was a legitimate weapon. Four foreigners seized by a rebel group in July are still in captivity.

Vinod Mehta, editor of Outlook, told reporters that the opinion poll was nearly called off after the researchers were stalked by gunmen in Anantnag, some 50 kilometres from Srinagar.

India has said it plans to hold elections to the Kashmir legislature in a bid to end the separatist campaign. Muslim militants have vowed to sabotage the polls, saying they will only agree to the state's secession from India.

## East Timor governor calls for army to restore calm

DILI, East Timor (R) — East Timorese Governor Abilio Soares urged Indonesia's security forces Wednesday to restore order after gangs of youths rampaged through the capital in the worst unrest in the territory this year.

Residents said youths armed with knives, bamboo sticks and stones continued to gather in several places around the city after two days of violence, but said there had been no reports of further clashes since early Wednesday when youths rampaged through the streets of Dili burning tyres and destroying cars.

"I appeal to the security apparatus to immediately restore order to Dili and take legal action against whoever is involved," Mr. Soares told a news conference, flanked by local military and police commanders.

Mr. Soares said Wednesday's rioting followed the Monday killing of a public servant named Saloman Da Costa Soares.

He said a second person, Sertanio Arango, a youth from out of town, was killed Tuesday as revenge.

Unrest in mainly Roman Catholic East Timor has taken a new twist this year with youths venting their frustration along ethnic and religious lines.

Riots have swept several cities since January with Timorese attacking Indonesian immigrants, most of them Muslim.

This week's violence was apparently sparked by local gang warfare between youths who support Indonesian rule and those who oppose it, however.

Police chief Andreas Sugianto told Reuters earlier six youths had been arrested and 12 people badly injured, including two police officers. He told the news conference those involved would be arrested if they did not turn themselves in.

"We know where all the offenders live and only need to summon them and if they don't answer we will come

for them," he told the conference.

Mr. Soares added: "If they don't want to come after being summoned three times, then we can play rough."

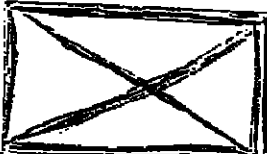
Residents said scores of youths and troops were still locked in stand-offs in several parts of the capital.

"We can't go out because all the streets are blocked by the youths. The situation is tense," one resident said.

Chief Sugianto said youths took three police officers hostage, one a captain, releasing them after an unknown number of Timorese were freed from detention by the military.

Chief Sugianto told the news conference some people had been detained, but did not say how many or why.

Residents said the situation had eased by the afternoon, but others said gangs continued to blockade some neighbourhoods, stopping cars and blocking public or government vehicles.





ATLANTA — Too much sun can increase the risk of skin cancer, but a new study shows that a little sun can help fight other types of cancer, researchers say. "The exposure of only small areas of our body to sunlight is sufficient to raise the blood levels of Vitamin D," reported a team of researchers from the Dartmouth Medical Center. The study, published in the journal *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, found that people who get a little sun have a lower risk of dying from cancer. The researchers also found that Vitamin D helps people with cancer live longer. "Vitamin D is needed for healthy skeleton and fight disease," said one of the researchers.

### Italy hunts for stolen art treasures

ROME — Italy launched a campaign to recover its art treasures when it published a catalogue of 1,500 works, some of which were stolen during World War II. The works, many of which were hidden in Nazi hands, were current owners' names, including the names of the museums, churches, and private collections. The Italian government is now trying to recover these works. "We are not giving up," said a government official. "We will find these works and bring them back to Italy."

### Video dominates British film market

LONDON — Video and rentals are dominating the British film market, according to a new report. The report says that video and rentals account for 70 per cent of the film market, while cinema attendance has fallen. "The film industry is in a difficult position," said a film industry official. "We need to find ways to attract more people to the cinema."

### Ingmar Bergman to get award

STOCKHOLM — Ingmar Bergman, the Swedish film director, will be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. The award was announced by the Swedish Academy. Bergman is one of the most famous Swedish writers and directors. "Ingmar Bergman is a great artist," said a member of the Swedish Academy. "His work has inspired many people around the world."

### 439 kg pumpkin wins top prize

SAN FRANCISCO — A pumpkin weighing 439 kilograms (968 pounds) won the top prize at the International Pumpkin Festival. The pumpkin was grown by a farmer in California. "This is a record," said a festival official. "We have never seen a pumpkin this big before."

# World News

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Mexican rescue workers and soldiers dig for survivors through the rubble of the Hotel Costa Real in the port of Manzanillo in the western coastal state of Colima (AFP photo)

## Quake claims at least 33 lives in Mexico

MANZANILLO, Mexico (AP) — Bernadette McCafferty ran screaming through the hall in her pajamas when the Radisson Hotel began to sway in a powerful earthquake.

"It felt like being in a boat with high waves," said the Canadian tourist from Oakville, Ontario. "I felt like I was done. Dead."

The magnitude-7.6 quake struck Mexico's Pacific coast Monday morning, killing at least 33 people and injuring 90 as it toppled houses and hotels, cracked bridges, split highways and cut power and phone services.

In Manzanillo, a popular resort 330 miles west of Mexico City, the eight-story Costa Real Hotel was reduced to rubble. Rescuers pulled 15 bodies and 10 injured people from the ruins, but resumed their search Tuesday only after dawn because there had been no power overnight.

"Vice Adm. Ambrosio Ariza Lopez, a director of search operations, told the Associated Press more bodies were likely to be uncovered."

"We really don't know exactly how many people died in the hotel," Adm. Ariza Lopez said Tuesday

as workers discovered the 15th body, that of a woman who was 8 months pregnant. Her 3-year-old was still missing.

Hotel manager Alfonso Ramirez Ochoa said 33 of the hotel's 57 guests were missing along with 17 workers. But he said he held out little hope even as police dogs combed the mounds of crumbled cement.

Rescue workers used blue-and-white surgical masks also used pickaxes and sifted through jumbled clothing, mattresses and torn sofas. Cots laid out with intravenous tubes lay nearby in the event survivors were found.

Red Cross workers and sailors from the nearby port built a temporary morgue on the lawn next to the hotel pool, laying sheet-covered corpses side by side.

Just outside Manzanillo, a building housing the state judicial police collapsed, killing a police commander and seven other people, said state spokesman Mario Cardenas.

"The injured are everywhere," said Livia De La Garza, a textile shop owner in Manzanillo.

After reporting up to 45 deaths in the neighbouring

state of Jalisco, authorities there revised their estimate late Monday, saying they had counted some victims several times and only 10 people had died.

There was no immediate way to confirm the death toll. Many people believe that the Mexican government purposely underestimated the number of people killed in a 1985 quake, which officially killed more than 6,000. Independent estimates put the death toll at more than 10,000.

The states of Jalisco and Colima, where Manzanillo is, contain some of Mexico's most popular beach resorts.

The area shook violently after the 9:37 a.m. quake (1537 GMT), which was centred three miles (five kilometres) offshore near the border between the two states — 15 miles (24 kilometres) east-southeast of Manzanillo.

"It was scary because it was so long," said Hortaiza Magana, stepping off a plane in Los Angeles. "I just toughed it out. It lasted more than a minute."

Skyscrapers in Mexico City swayed violently and people bolted from homes and workplaces. Power and phone service was interrupted

for about an hour. The quake was felt as far north as Dallas and Oklahoma City.

Some roads and bridges were heavily cracked or damaged, and the quake ripped fissures as wide as a foot in the main coastal highway.

Telephone service and power were cut to many areas and authorities canceled flights to Manzanillo, citing reports of damage to the runway.

Before leaving for Washington for a meeting with President Bill Clinton, President Ernesto Zedillo sent five cabinet members to assess damage and ordered military workers to coordinate an emergency response.

The quake was the second powerful tremor to hit Mexico in a month — a magnitude-7.3 quake on Sept. 14 killed five people in southern Mexico.

Most Mexican quakes occur along a long swath of coastline from the Guatemalan border to near Puerto Vallarta, where the Cocos Plate of the Earth's crust is thrusting under the North American Plate.

## Suu Kyi calls for stronger labour unions in Burma

MANILA, Philippines (Agencies) — Burmese dissident leader and Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi Tuesday called on her countrymen to organise independent unions to free themselves from "slavery" under her country's military rulers.

In a videotaped message to a meeting of world trade unionists in Manila, Ms. Suu Kyi accused the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the military junta that rules Burma, of systematically using forced labour in joint venture projects with multinational corporations.

She also warned foreign investors against taking part in such joint ventures, saying the projects help set back democratisation in Burma.

"All we are saying is that investments should be made in the right way at the right time," she said. "In the long run, it will be the businessmen themselves who will be hurt by investing at the wrong time."

Earlier, Amnesty International reported that prisoners in Burmese labour camps were dying by the

hundreds from brutal conditions.

The London-based human rights group said the death rate in some camps, which hold about 500 prisoners used in construction projects, exceeds 50 per cent.

In one camp near the central city of Mandalay, it said, 400 prisoners died in a month's time.

"Our greatest resource, our greatest asset, is our people. We need organisations to protect the rights of our people," said Mrs. Suu Kyi. Her message, the latest attack against the regime of Gen. Saw Maung since her release from house arrest in July, was received with loud applause on the second day of the conference organised by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Among the participants were trade union leaders from Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Australia, United States and the Philippines.

Conference spokesman Alexander Aguilar said the conference was a show of solidarity with the workers

of Burma and their clandestine trade union, the Federation of Trade Unions of Burma.

The federation went underground after the military regime crushed pro-democracy protesters in 1988 and stopped Ms. Suu Kyi from assuming the presidency she won in an election.

Ms. Suu Kyi, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, was placed under house arrest in 1989. She was released last July in what was seen as the SLORC's attempt to attract foreign investors and recognition by the international community.

Ms. Suu Kyi has been reappointed general secretary of the party she helped found seven years ago and which went on to sweep a 1990 election, party sources said Wednesday.

Ms. Suu Kyi was reappointed general secretary of the National League for Democracy (NLD) at a party meeting Tuesday, said the sources, who declined to be identified.

Two other senior party members released from prison in March were appointed vice-chairmen.

Tin Oo, a former senior military officer who founded the party with Ms. Suu Kyi in 1988, was appointed vice-chairman as was Kyi Maung. He led the party to its May 1990 election victory, after Ms. Suu Kyi and Mr. Tin Oo were imprisoned, until he too was imprisoned later that year.

The NLD was formed in September 1988, days after the military crushed a democracy uprising and set up the ruling SLORC. Less than a year later Ms. Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest for "endangering the state".

Despite her detention, the NLD swept 392 of 485 parliamentary seats in a May 1990 election, but the SLORC ignored the result and instead launched a sweeping crackdown on all opposition, imprisoning many senior NLD members at the national and local level.

The rump of the party, led by Aung Shwe, formally expelled Ms. Suu Kyi after pressure from the SLORC in December 1991, shortly after she won the Nobel Peace Prize. Aung Shwe remains NLD chairman, the party sources said.

## Hong Kong's last colonial legislature sworn in

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong's last colonial legislature — and its most democratic — was sworn into office Wednesday, just 629 days before Beijing resumes sovereignty over the territory.

The ceremony for the 60-seat chamber Beijing has vowed to abolish in 1997 came only hours before Governor Chris Patten was set to give his annual policy speech.

"I, Allen Lee Peng-Fei, solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will uphold the law of Hong Kong and that I will conscientiously and truly serve the people of Hong Kong as a member of the Legislative Council," said Mr. Allen Lee, the longest serving member and chairman of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Allen Lee's business-oriented Liberal Party is the second largest grouping in the council with 10 elected members.

The Democratic Party, the chamber's largest with 19 councillors, is the flagship of the pro-democracy camp and its leaders have been denounced as subversives by Beijing.

Mr. Allen Lee was followed by 58 other councillors in the brief but solemn ceremony. One member was out of the territory.

China bitterly opposed democratic reforms enacted last year which culminated last month in the first fully elected legislature in Hong Kong's history. It has sworn to dismantle the council and replace it with one of its own design.

A more immediate challenge will be working out the new legislature's relationship with the government.

Until the last session, the council included three senior government officials and 18 appointed members who could act as the government's eyes and ears, and in the case of the officials at least, could cast crucial votes for the government.

"Can (Patten) work with this Legco now?" Martin Lee, leader of the Democratic Party, said in a radio interview earlier Wednesday.

"What will he do, what will he say as to enhancing cooperation between the government and the Legislative Council?"

## 1 killed as Indonesian troops open fire on rioting quake survivors

SUNGAIPENUH, Indonesia (AP) — Troops opened fire Wednesday to quell a riot by about 1,000 earthquake survivors demanding custody of four men who kidnapped and reportedly raped a teenage girl, officials said.

A 40-year-old man was killed in the shooting. The riot occurred in the town of Semur, five kilometres (3 miles) from Sungaipenuh, the epicenter of Saturday's earthquake that killed at least 100 people and injured more than 1,700.

The four men armed with guns apparently tried to rob homes left unguarded after the earthquake, but when that failed, abducted the girl, said Lt. Supandi, a military spokesman.

On being spotted by local residents, the kidnappers rushed into the police station to avoid being lynched, witnesses said. Residents said the girl was raped, but that could not be immediately confirmed.

As the mob grew, anger at the miserable conditions since the disaster was directed against the police for protecting the culprits, Lt. Supandi said.

"The menacing mob came with sticks, stones and any-

thing they could lay their hands on to attack the police station," he said. They broke windows and doors of the station before army soldiers opened fire in the air.

It was not clear how the victim, identified as Mat Rusdi, was shot. He was hit by a bullet under the chin.

Area military commander Col. Muchdi promised to identify and punish the soldier who shot into the crowd. He said the riot would also be investigated.

Two reporters for a Jakarta magazine were beaten up by the crowds, who also set fire to the kidnappers' confiscated van at the police station, officials said.

It was not immediately clear if any more people were injured.

The shooting occurred only about 30 minutes after President Suharto left the area following a brief visit to console the quake victims.

Earlier Wednesday, officials riding vans fitted with loudspeakers declared the remote area on Sumatra island safe from further aftershocks.

"You can now go back to your home, without fear, because there will be no more big quakes to harm

you," Col. Bambang Sukowirno, the top official of the district, announced.

He said geologists have confirmed that "even the small (quakes) would hardly be noticeable."

Tens of thousands of people were homeless after about 10,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed by the magnitude-7 quake near Sumatra's southwestern coast.

So far only 80 bodies have been recovered and buried in mass graves, but officials say the toll will be at least 100.

After surviving the quake and reliving the terror by daily aftershocks, residents are unwilling to go back to those homes still standing despite the official assurances.

"I would rather remain here under this tent, where it is safe if a quake strikes again," said Wiranti, 35.

Survivors also complained of food and medicine shortages. Officials blamed the shortages on the remoteness of the area, which is an eight-hour drive from the nearest big town. Roads, power and telephone lines have also been damaged by the quake.

## Russian Orthodox Church urges draftees into army

MOSCOW (AP) — Head of the Russian Orthodox Church Tuesday urged young draftees into the ranks of the army, appealing to their honour as "Orthodox warriors."

The unusual appeal from Patriarch Alexy II was a show of spiritual support for the beleaguered armed forces, which is plagued by widespread draft-dodging.

The army's regular autumn draft is now under way. The defence Ministry's goal is 224,000 new recruits by the end of the year.

Young recruits have long feared the brutal hazing common in the Russian army.

Harsh living conditions stemming from post-Soviet budget cuts and the Kremlin's ten-month old war in Chechnya have added to the general aversion to military service.

"The time has come for you to join the army ranks to serve the motherland, to protect and defend it from external and internal enemies and strengthen its might," the patriarch said.

"We feel sure that you won't compromise the honour and dignity of the Orthodox warrior."

The patriarch's statement was a sign of the warm relations the church and the army have established since the 1991 Soviet collapse. It was also a rare boost to an armed forces long under fire for its reluctance to create a create a professional, all-volunteer army.

"I hope that the army service, with all its difficulties, will help your spirit mature," the patriarch said. "Your army service will help establish deeper ties between it and the church for the benefit of Russia and its people."

In more secular quarters, however, the draft call came under sharp fire.

"They just need new soldiers as cannon fodder," reformist lawmaker Ella Pamylova told a news conference.

She sharply questioned the wisdom of increasing the armed forces ranks at a time when the army can barely feed its soldiers.

"Recruits have nothing to eat and wear torn boots," she said. "There is no sense in filling up the barracks with additional hungry soldiers."

A chronic shortage of funds has left many Russian soldiers and their families on the verge of starvation.

Valentin Panichev, the top military prosecutor, warned recently that a tragedy like the malnutrition deaths of four naval cadets in 1993 could be repeated. Some garrisons have even consumed all their emergency rations, he said.

The top brass has resisted personnel cutbacks, pressing instead for a bigger draft and longer compulsory service.

They argue that the army's dwindling strength undermines its combat readiness and say the Defence Ministry can't afford to pay contract soldiers.

Headful of the ministry's complaints, parliament last spring extended the length of the compulsory military service to two years from 18 months.



This photo taken from a satellite transmission shows hurricane Roxanne which is close to the Yucatan peninsula town of Cozumel, Mexico (AFP photo)



## Jordan Times

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### Unions on political stage

IN HIS ADDRESS to the Royal Medical Services on Tuesday, His Majesty King Hussein raised a very important constitutional issue about the legality of compulsory membership in professional associations. "It is probably wrong to force any physician to join the medical association," the King said. "And I wonder if such a regulation is constitutional or democratic." On this specific point, the Constitution has this to say in Article 23 (2): The State shall protect work and shall legislate thereon on the basis of the following principles, inter alia, the organisation of free unions within the limits of the law." As we read this provision, the establishment of unions and therefore professional associations must be free in the sense that membership therein must be free to all those who wish to join.

If this constitutional reference is not enough or clear enough, we may still refer to international norms as reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) for guidance. Article 20(2) of this declaration is quite explicit and unequivocal. It reads as follows: "No one may be compelled to belong to an association." These words are compelling enough against forcing any one to belong to an association or union. If the UDHR lacks legal effect and therefore is not binding, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) has codified this principle of the declaration and gave it the force of law for all states which ratified it including Jordan which became a state party in 1978.

Accordingly and on the strength of the Constitution and the ICCPR, which has the effect of law in the country, indeed no one may be forced to belong to an association.

This construction of the municipal and international law, however, does not suggest that the regulation of any profession by an association is illegal. Indeed all professions need to be regulated in order to ensure that physicians, engineers and lawyers, to mention only a few, meet certain qualification requirements before they may practise their profession.

Professional associations would continue therefore to play an indispensable role in the sense that they have to articulate and adopt the necessary criteria for professionals before they may engage in their work. That is why professions like of lawyers and physicians continue to have their own respective associations worldwide.

An equally vexing issue is whether professional associations can engage in politics over and above their immediate concerns. As far as we can understand our Constitution and the relevant international treaties, any one may freely express his opinion including a group of people assembled lawfully to exercise a legal purpose. This means that actions called for by any such association must be consistent with the laws of the land. In other words, professional associations may indeed address political issues and take appropriate decision or action provided it is in conformity with the law. What is consistent with the law and what is not is something only a court of law may rule on. On the issue of normalisation per se, we believe that our courts would declare illegal any action or policy that contravenes the peace treaty with Israel.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Reflecting on the imminent Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit a writer in Al Ra'i daily said Jordanians are divided over the prospects of the event. Some believe that the conference will not achieve anything at all, while others reckon it will mark the beginning of prosperity for Jordan and the whole region, said Tareq Masarweh. The writer noted that the public and private sectors are preparing a realistic agenda for discussion by the international delegates and while it is not possible to predict results, it is important not live in a dream-world. Noting the conference will offer an opportunity to illuminate Jordan's investment climate for the rest of the world, the writer said that investors normally look for lucrative businesses, cheap labour and skilled workers, in addition to markets for their products. He added that investors do not have "pots of money" to squander and Jordanians should realise that only by offering the right incentives and creating an opportune climate will investment of capital be encouraged. Referring to the sprucing of streets and the beautification of parts of Amman in preparation for the event, the writer said that although these measures are required it is more important to convince others of our ideas and proposals, at least on the pan-Arab level, and so ensure real and lasting investments.

A writer in Al Dustour said that the newly elected municipal councils have discovered that their municipalities are almost broke and unable to carry out proper municipal services because of a lack of funding. Saleh Qallab said the municipalities seem to have neglected investments in income-generating projects which would in turn finance services, even though they were aware that city and village development banks would have given them soft-loans for those projects. The writer said former municipal councils had contributed to this failure by either failing to collect fees from the public, or had over employed people to work in the municipalities.

## On teachers and their performance: a pat on the shoulder will do

IN HIS impromptu speech to the conference on "Arab Teacher Education in the 21st Century" held at the University of Jordan last week, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan emphasised that any "development" of teacher performance (and of others) must be based on the crucial recognition of "quality, integrity and equality of opportunity" for all, regardless of the "sect, doctrine, party or group" to which individuals belong.

The Crown Prince is absolutely correct. In the teaching profession, as in all professions, a sense of fairness and justice has to prevail. Teachers should be hired, promoted, evaluated and rewarded according to criteria which must not be compromised under any circumstance. If the Ministry of Education is "the mother of all ministries", as His Royal Highness aptly described it, there is all the more reason why we should insist on making it congenial and possible for teachers to excel in effort, commitment and performance.

Implied in the Crown Prince's speech, however, was the sound, but sad, realisation that the Arab World has, so far, not lived up to the principles we advocate and the ideals we cherish. Prince Hassan predicted the 21st century will bring "winds of change", which will inevitably affect the region. Those winds may herald the forceful application of principles and ideals we cherish, since the 20th century ultimately failed to provide for the implementation of these principles and ideals. The Crown Prince, who has invested a great deal of time and effort in the educational sector, is fully aware of the obstacles, problems and challenges and is constantly reminding those involved of the bitter facts. The obvious assumption here, is that if we do not sure these ugly facts in the face, confront them courageously and prescribe effective solutions to them, they will be with us for a long time to come.

It is no secret, especially to those involved or concerned, that the teaching profession in our part of the world has regressed and deteriorated remarkably over the years, instead of progressing and improving as one would expect. Despite the facilities made available, the technologies enthusiastically adopted, the sophisticated syllabi and the teaching methods introduced, the workshops, seminars and conferences devotedly held, the quality of teaching and learning in the public sector (the private sector is a different story) has not improved much. On the contrary, it seems to be going down-hill, at times, at an alarming speed.

There are zillions of reasons and causes related to the students themselves, ranging from: their attitude, their

commitment and their motivation and readiness to learn; to their parents and the home environment; the support parents give their kids, the values they foster in them, the habits they reinforce, their care or carelessness about their child's behaviour at school; to the overall cultural environment, teaching methods and syllabi (not all that glitters is gold); to the teachers themselves and their psychological, moral and physical condition; to the headmasters and their practices; to the ministry officials and their conduct, etc.

One of the main reasons or causes, however, (which is what concerns us directly here) is the absence of the principle of fairness and justice in dealing with teachers. I'll explain.

The other day, a former student of mine who had been a teacher in the Ministry of Education for about nine years, paid me a visit to say "hi" and to tell me that he had resigned from his job and that he had accepted a job offer at a local bank. Though I was not surprised in the least, I was greatly saddened. His resignation is a great loss to his students and to the dear homeland.

He is no ordinary person. He is everything a teacher should be and more. In addition to a charming personality, a great sense of humour, a pleasant voice, a cheerful outlook on life and an alertness beyond description, he had a matchless sense of commitment, a profound understanding of what it means to be a teacher in the Arab World at this precise time in history, an outstanding command of English (the subject he teaches) and of Arabic, in addition to a remarkable awareness of public events and happenings, a real devotion to reading and thinking beyond the boundaries of the narrow discipline and he also possesses a sharp mind. Without exaggeration, the man is a gem. I had the opportunity to observe him teach, to talk to his students and colleagues and to debate a variety of issues with him. He was a great inspiration to his students and extremely courteous to his colleagues. Truly incredible in a world where there is very little commitment to work and very little courtesy.

"I have given up, I cannot take it any more," he said. "I can deal with the hassle from the 'service' and bus drivers, with being poorer than a church mouse, with teaching at a relatively remote part of the world, with my wife and parents making fun of me for not getting what I deserve, with stories about colleagues and former friends less qualified than I who 'made it'. But I cannot deal with ingratitude, cynicism, harassment and injustice on the part of my peers and superiors. I cannot let my life and career

be run for me by people who are extremely inefficient, careless about the calling and extremely unfair in their judgement. I cannot tolerate a situation where the least efficient and able teacher is promoted, rewarded and favoured more than the able and efficient. I cannot stand cliques, favouritism and personal and familiar influence as the sole criteria for job punishments and rewards."

What an ugly world it is when people are not given a fair chance, when distinction is not recognised, when mediocrity is not only tolerated but celebrated, when those who make great efforts are on an equal or less footing with those who do not, when those who deserve a simple 'thank you' are denied it.

The unfortunate thing is that the case of this particular teacher is not an isolated case. Talk to the teachers, and you will see the amount of indiscretion and injustice. Worse, many truly able and talented teachers (almost all underprivileged and unrecognised) have either already quit or will quit the moment they get the chance.

We must have faith in history. We must look at the bright side. We must believe that the 21st century will be better. But we must also do two things, and without delay.

The first thing is, we need to ask ourselves what we can do to speed up the process of change. I believe that with serious planning (and Jordan has a very successful record with development plans) and with faithful implementation of specific measures, we can make progress happen at the beginning of the 21st century and not at the middle or end of it. We have the means, but need the will.

The second, more urgent thing, lies in what we can do now to remedy the deterioration of the profession and the loss of those excellent teachers whose number is decreasing. With opportunities opening up in the private sector, many of them are likely to be snatched up.

The solution here is simple. Such teachers do not want diamonds "as big as the Ritz" — to quote Fitzgerald — but appreciation and encouragement. The worst thing you could do is to appoint a headmaster whose sole pleasure is to insult and punish quality teachers and reward and privilege the mediocre ones, in both subtle and blatant ways.

I do not think it is difficult or impossible to spot teachers who exert a great effort and distinguish themselves in teaching and pat them on the shoulder. Or is it?

We all appreciate the constant effort and attention the Crown Prince has given to the education sector in Jordan, and we wish for more.

## Khartoum beset by multiple crises

By Gill Lusk

LONDON — The tradition of determined political protest has reawakened in Sudan. And the government, only too well aware that Generals Abbud and Numeiri were both brought down by civilian uprisings, has sent a clear signal that it has no intention of losing power so easily.

The government's response to a week of street demonstrations was brutal: indiscriminate shooting and a tactic new to riot control (though familiar in some areas as a traditional way of dealing with thieves) — the deliberate breaking of arms and legs. Despite a swift clamp-down on channels of information, human rights monitors have been able to confirm many such cases; some protesters were beaten during the protests, others were attacked in their own homes and then dragged out onto the street and abandoned. Amid reports of 40 deaths, six were confirmed at MEI press time. Security men were reported to have sealed off Khartoum mortuary, preventing families from identifying bodies.

The protests began peacefully, with a silent march by Khartoum University students on the weekend of 9-10 September. They were protesting at the detention the previous week of three fellow students and at least nine other people.

These detentions had immediately followed the government's much publicised "amnesty" of political and criminal detainees and prisoners, timed to coincide with the visit of a European Parliament delegation and under which former Prime Minister Sadiq Al-Mahdi was also released. Indeed, dozens of detainees are known to have remained in jail or in "ghost houses" after the amnesty. One not released and whose fate was already causing particular concern was Brigadier Mohammad Ahmad Al-Rayah, who had taken the unprecedented step of suing the government, alleging torture and rape.

These were by no means Khartoum's or Sudan's first demonstrations since the National Islamic Front took

power on 30 June 1989. There have been regular protests throughout the North, with Islamic banks a favoured target for burning; at least two were attacked last week. However, these were the first protests to take over central Khartoum and the government feared a repetition of "October", the peaceful civilian march on the Palace that overthrew Ibrahim Abbud in 1964, and "April", the equally peaceful civilian march on the Palace which catalysed the army into removing Jaafar Numeiri in 1985.

Moreover, the build-up of external pressure on the government has continued, with Ethiopia persuading the Organisation of African Unity to condemn Sudan's refusal to hand over three suspects in the assassination attempt on President Mubarak and Egypt cancelling the appointment of its new ambassador to Khartoum, all in the same week. The government therefore moved swiftly to challenge the protesters, dispatching not only riot police but NIF militias to smash the marches, which were quickly joined by non-students. The bid to restore order has been marked by another new development: the highly visible presence of groups of "civilians" armed with automatic weapons.

These are posted in strategic positions and intervene when deemed necessary. The government thus managed to seal off central Khartoum, closing the four Nile bridges, and containing the demonstrators in less sensitive areas of the capital. Despite the draconian measures, protests continued for a full week. As MEI went to press, leaflets were circulating that called for further protests.

The government knows it cannot rest easy. An ill-timed rise in the price of bread (to 49 Sudanese pounds for a small loaf, considered just about enough for one meal) ensures that discontent will continue to seethe at the most basic level. A worker at the bottom of the income scale with the average family of five eating two small meals a day spends a month's wages on about two weeks' food. The government has

responded with rapid repression, knowing that a major brake on protest over the last six years has been the popular conviction that, unlike previous military governments, the NIF will not leave power without a fight to the bitter end. The widespread assumption is that the tradition of political tolerance has been broken and that the NIF is finished in Sudan once it loses power.

Neighbours watch with interest

Outside parties, especially Sudan's neighbours, are watching with keen interest. Ethiopia has continued its quiet but increasingly public diplomacy. On 11 September, the OAU committee on conflict resolution in Africa condemned Sudan for failing to hand over suspects in the attack on Mubarak. The OAU has its headquarters in Addis Ababa, which partly explains Ethiopia's low-key approach to the issue. The resolution followed two visits by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa, who has been seeking to establish friendly relations with Meles Zenawi's government in the wake of the absurd clash that followed the attack on Mubarak.

Four days later, Cairo said it had cancelled, by presidential decree, the appointment of its new Khartoum ambassador. Egyptian officials make it clear the attack on President Mubarak has changed the nature of the long-standing quarrel with Sudan: unlike earlier disputes, it cannot be swept under the carpet. Both Cairo and Addis Ababa have accused Sudan not only of harbouring the attackers but of being involved in the assassination attempt.

With Eritrea and Uganda already having broken off relations, the sense of encirclement is palpably growing. Nevertheless, Kenya, which has repeatedly shown a conciliatory attitude, chose this same week to detain two resident Northern Sudanese oppositionists (one Umma, one SPLA) and threaten to return them to Khartoum, claiming that they had organised the riots in the city.

After diverse pressure on President Daniel arap Moi's government, one was released but the other was still held as MEI went to press.

Opposition parties' caution

Meanwhile, the opposition National Democratic Alliance has been characteristically cautious in responding to the government's crisis. There is a feeling that the three main players — the Umma, Democratic Unionist party and SPLA — are trying to stitch up a triangle that leaves little room for the country's many other parties and groups.

The NDA is reluctant to accept the application for membership of Riek Machar's Southern Sudan Independence Movement, not least because of its name but also because it does not fit in with this three-cornered scheme of things. In the meantime, Riek's (and before that, John Garang's) former spokesman John Luk Jok and the ever mobile William Nyuon Bany (a respected military commander who had only recently returned to Riek after fighting for Khartoum) announced that they had "overthrown" Riek. But they seem to have failed to capitalise on the discontent within Riek's SSIA. After the SPLA flew William up to Kongor, there was heavy fighting in parts of Upper Nile between William's and SSIA forces, most of whom appear to have remained loyal.

Discontent with Garang's leadership has also grown, especially since August when the SPLA lost the border town of Kaya to the government (alarming Kampala) and, while reconciliation within the SSIM is still the byword at the lower levels, leaders in all groups are still busy manoeuvring. The war in the South has been the underlying cause of the downfall of every government since independence in 1956. But the triggers are always in the North, where the centre of power lies. Eyes are now fixed on Khartoum.

Middle East International

### LETTERS

#### MENA has a logo

To the editor:

We are sending you a copy of the logo for the Middle East North Africa (MENA) summit since we noted that one of your readers has suggested that there ought to be a logo for the summit, which he seems not to have seen printed in the other Jordanian daily papers (Letters to the editor, by Mounir Zu'bi, Oct 10, 1995). The logo consists of a sketch of the globe, with an upward-pointing arrow, similar to a graph for economic indicators, symbolising growth and prosperity, with Amman being the forum.

In fact, part of the purpose of the Operations Room is to make information available to the public regarding the summit.

For the staff of the MENA Summit Operations Room,

Rania Atalla

#### Highway robbery

To the Editor:

Jordan is a country which prides itself on law and order. Visitors to Jordan delight in meeting the friendly Jordanian people.

Jordan would seem to be the last country where tourists would be obliged to pay for something they neither want nor use.

On March 1, 1995, without notice, or warning, the Ministry of Antiquities banned horses from riding through the Siq (in Petra). Fine, except that no thought or planning had been given to the implications.

Yet, until today, we are forced to pay JD 7 for the horses, which even if we did use it would be only for a few hundred yards from the entry point to the beginning of the Siq. More expensive than Concord to New York. We would waste more time getting on and off the horses than riding such a short distance.

There can be no justification for this "law". I am fully aware of the implications for the families of Wadi Musa, but this is a social welfare matter to which the Jordanian government should address itself.

When the entrance fees for Petra were drastically increased last year, I welcomed this step. I would not hesitate to welcome a further increase, given adequate notice, but to force tourists to pay JD 7 for nothing reminds me of Rob Roy McGregor, bare-faced Highway Robbery.

James Smith,  
 Jasmin Tours Ltd.,  
 High Street,  
 Cookham, Berkshire,  
 England

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.







## Sources of knowledge

By Jean-Claude Elias

One of the personal computers' idiosyncrasies is the way people have to learn how to operate them. Whether old-timers thinking it's never too late and jumping on the bandwagon or freshly graduated students, there is no way one could have learned in an academic way all what it takes to use a PC and be in control.

In spite of the fact that computers have become an official part of schools curriculum, even those who just finished their studies will find that between the time they graduated and the time they have to use a computer in their profession, things have already changed, and machines and software have evolved. Unless they maintain an uninterrupted relationship with PCs, they constantly have to learn new ways.

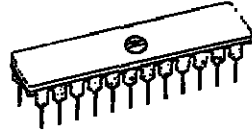
I am often told that those who study informatics, electronics or computer science should know everything about PCs. Alas! First, the art of using personal computers — that is running Windows, spreadsheets, etc. — doesn't have much to do with the above mentioned sciences. Second, the winds of change are blowing so fast that the never ending process of learning the said art is putting everybody on the same level. On some topics, a seasoned pro may not know more than a 13-year-old schoolboy.

True, those who take scientific topics like the ones above are more prepared than others to understand the world of computers. They can probably learn faster and have, overall, a better conceptualisation of what's going on inside the machine and in the software. Eventually, they'll make a better use of the computer than those who didn't study any of the above disciplines.

If not at school where can the layman get a "PC knowledge" from? While the most efficient, straightforward approach is the practical one — i.e. get a PC and spend an average of 4 to 6 hours a day, 8 days a week, trying to figure out the way it works — there are still more systematic methods.

Taking training courses with specialised companies, software houses or colleges is a sure, though long if not tedious, scheme to reach the PCs Holy Grail. Buying original software and reading the programme's user manual, provided it is well-written, often proves to be an efficient and time saving approach. The problem of those who complain of not understanding software is sometimes due to the fact that they are not running originals but pirated,

## chip talk



illegal copies, given to them without any documentation.

Even when a good user manual is available, how many of us, including the writer of this column who humbly confesses, do actually read the book? Very few, I am afraid.

Another, parallel kind of computer literature has recently proven to be of a great help to PC aficionados — PC magazines. Apart from the generous share of advertisement they hold (more than 75 per cent) these publications also contain technical reviews and stories, at various levels of difficulty. Each can find his or her own. Through them, I have often discovered new ways of doing things, learned smart tricks, benefited from a useful advice on miscellaneous topics. Some users owe them most of what they know about PCs.

PC Magazine, Personal Computer World, Byte, Windows Magazine, PC Shopper, PC Pro and others (all available at newsstands in Amman) are extremely attractive to read. Much more than plain user manuals that could be boring. The magazines are colourful, well-designed, always up-to-date. They publish articles on new software, that are very helpful for first time users. With such reading and a little experience, the average computer user can do wonders. No need to go to any school.

Similar Arabic publications have recently appeared in the Middle East. Though well-prepared and certainly useful for those who cannot read English, they can hardly compete with the above mentioned American and English magazines that are issued by large, powerful publishing houses with tremendous technical and marketing capabilities.

Whatever path PC lovers chose to follow for their learning, one thing is certain, the more they read, the better the results.

## Give me land, give me more land. Don't fence me in

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

O. J. Simpson's show trial has just ended. It was a show trial because the amount of money spent on it was of the kind that would have normally sufficed to make a big-budget movie. And, as it has just been acclaimed, that was exactly what the people in television had done by bringing to us all the twists and turns of the trial on a day-to-day basis.

O. J.'s story was a perfect fit of a certain cinematic genre where the accused is always a famous television star or a retired football hero. But once the jury in this trial had identified with this movie genre they had no choice but to find the defendant innocent because that is the way that it always is in the movies.

And this is the message that the director of a certain television programme called "Just like in the movies" conveys. In this TV show, the main character always compares whatever happens to him on a daily basis with movies, or television shows, that he has seen as a kid and he formulates decisions accordingly.

By implication, it would be quite an entertaining notion if all of us could live our lives just as if they were a part of a soap opera or, as it is the case for quite a lot of us, as part of an action thriller with a twist of Friday the 13th or something of the sort. Quite justifiably, this would imply that, just like fate — for those of us who believe in it anyway — our lives would be predetermined by some movie or another.

All this seems to indicate that just as television had transposed the Simpson trial from a physical to a virtual realm where its reality and significance were relativised, it has also transposed our lives into a virtual realm where what we know of and about ourselves and the millions and millions of people who live around us is purely what we see and hear on television and, to a lesser extent, what we read about it in the newspapers. We have never met Willy Claes but we see him on television everyday. We do

not know who Miles Kington is, but we can tell a lot about him by reading his articles. We have never been to the Comoros but somehow we now feel a slight tingle whenever the name crops up.

In spite of all this, and partly because of it, there is an actual reality outside of all this which just keeps turning up at the door. Unannounced. This is partly because we would rather not deal with it? Maybe. But to acknowledge its existence is a must if we are to solve all of our present problems.

Inefficiency, bad luck, corruption, boredom, poor training, disrespect, apathy, ignorance, resistance to modernisation, pride, the inability to listen, really listen, the inability to learn from past mistakes and the tangled web of bureaucracy all make an ultimate recipe for destruction.

The decline in the value of the commercial properties in the Wasfi Al-Tal Street (ex-Gardens Street) are no more than the direct results of the failure to properly implement worldwide accepted norms in urban planning regarding the movement of people between adjacent buildings, and the movement, also of people, from one side to another, simply because one designer refuses to acknowledge that the work of another exists. And no amount of faint yellow paint will ever disguise such planning mishaps.

We are smart enough to know what our mistakes are and no one should take offence that such problems are being put out in the open.

Intolerable situations are being created where it is folly to simply keep quiet waiting for the problem to go away. We cannot wish our problems away. We have to act now. We have to offer lasting solutions to problems that have been with us for years and years. By doing just that, and by crossing that threshold, we will have proved to the whole world that we have truly matured as individuals, as a people and as a nation.

### AMAZING FACTS

\* One normally associates pyramids with ancient Egypt, but surprisingly, the world's largest pyramid is in Mexico. It is called the Quetzacoatl and was built with sun dried bricks and earth around the year 100. Although only 177 feet high, it covers an area of 45 acres. The tallest pyramid, however, is the Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt, which was originally 480 feet high. It covers an area of 13 acres. It has been estimated that the Mexican pyramid is a million cubic yards greater in volume than the Pyramid of Cheops.

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\* The Tuatara lizard, of New Zealand, still grows the rudiments a third eye on the top of its head — a link with the time when the creature had many flying enemies.

\*\*\*\*\*

\* The Rafflesia Arnoldi, is the largest blossom in the world measuring 3 feet across — it also gives an overpowering stench of rotting carrion.

\*\*\*\*\*

\* Liu Ch'ing was born with two pupils in each eye! But this double deal nature didn't stop him from entering public services and, in 955 A. D., he became the governor of Shansi province.

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## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mohammad A. Shuqair

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

#### CLOTHES

— How pretty this suit is!

Ya laha min badlten jameela!

— Tomorrow I intend to buy a shirt, trousers, necktie, and socks.

Ghadan anwee an ashtari Kamisan, wa bantalouna, warabata onq wa jawarib

— The skit, bodice, dress, shawl and slippers are old. Attannoura wassudriya wal fustan wash'shal wash'shibshib qadeema

— We use an apron for babies and kitchen work. Nasta'mil al-maryala lil-afal wa'amal al-mat'bakh.

— She wants an evening dress & a slip. Torred fustan sahra wakalsun

### JOKES

\* SERVANT: My master is out, sir.  
VISITOR: When is he expected to come back?  
SERVANT: Just wait for a minute. I'll go and ask him!

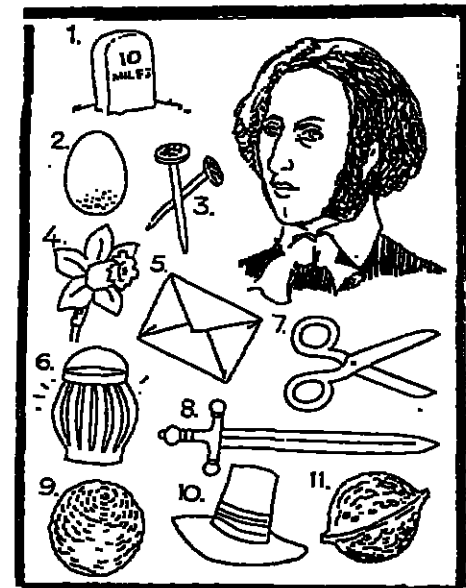
\* MISTRESS: Don't cut cheese before cleaning the knife.  
MAID: It's not necessary to do the cleaning, madam. I cut a bar of soap with it a few minutes ago!

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the connection between Heliopolis, New York and London?
2. Where were the Hanging Gardens; who built them?
3. What may be regarded as the greatest of all "recording" achievement?
4. What is ager-ager?
5. What is tafia? Where do we get it from?
6. The former custom of Hindu widows' committing suicide on their husbands' funeral pyres. What is it called?

### PUZZLES

(A) C..... is for composer. This is a great German artist. The initials of the objects spell out his NAME.



(B) WHAT is it that occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment, and yet not once in a 1000 years.

### Thursday, Oct. 12, 1995

- 1:00 Iris - The Happy Professor
- 1:20 Fireman Sam
- 1:30 My Secret Identity
- 2:00 N.B.A.
- 3:00 The New Leave It to Beaver
- 3:30 Gillette World Sport
- 4:00 White Heat
- 5:00 Children's Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis  
"Ma Thor"
- 5:30 Varieties And Game Show  
Le Monde Est A Vous
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
Archimede
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 The Album Show
- 8:30 National Geographic
- 9:15 The New Avengers
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Movie — The Miracle Workers  
Starring: Patty Duke Austin & Diane Muldawn
- 11:50 The Thorn Birds

### Friday, Oct. 13, 1995

- 1:00 Read A Lee Deed A Lee
- 1:15 Beethoven
- 1:30 Why Didn't I Think Of That
- 2:00 White Fang
- 2:30 The Ronn Lucas Show
- 3:00 Tall Tales & Legends
- 4:00 The Crystal Maze
- 5:00 Children Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis  
"Le Temple Du Condor"
- 5:30 Telefilm  
La Verite En Face
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
E=M6
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 Coach
- 8:00 African Skies
- 8:30 Museums Around The World
- 9:15 Wolf
- 10:00 News In English

## JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

- 10:25 Buccaneers
- 11:30 Movie — The Maid  
Starring: Martin Sheen & Jackie Bisset

### Saturday, Oct. 14, 1995

- 2:00 Back To The Future
- 2:30 Harry And The Hendersons
- 3:00 Blue Heelers
- 3:45 Only In Hollywood
- 4:10 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan
- 5:00 Children's Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis  
"La Takades Inuks"
- 5:30 Documentary  
Le Loire Au Fil Des Hommes
- 6:00 Drama Series  
Operation Open I Et 2
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
Faut Pas Rever
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 First Flights
- 8:00 Major Dad
- 8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:10 Star Trek — The Next Generation
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Movie — The Fifteen Streets  
Starring: Owen Teale & Ian Banner
- 11:50 The Tin Flute

### Sunday, Oct. 15, 1995

- 2:00 The Flintstones
- 2:30 Joshua Jones
- 2:45 Droopy Master Detective
- 3:00 Scientific Eye
- 3:30 Pugwall's Summar
- 4:00 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan
- 5:00 Children's Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis
- 5:30 Serie

### Monday, Oct. 16, 1995

- 2:00 Shelley Duvall's Bedtime Stories
- 2:30 Hey Dad!
- 3:00 Nature World Of Mitsuaki
- 4:00 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan
- 5:00 Children Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis
- 5:30 Serie  
Les Aventuriers Du Rio Verde
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
Nimbus
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 Camp Wildest
- 8:00 Women Eat Last  
(On the occasion of World Food Day)
- 8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:10 Hearts Of The West
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Inspector Morse
- 12:00 American Chart Show

### Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1995

- 2:00 Captain Planet
- 2:30 M.A.N.T.I.S

- 3:00 To Run The Gauntlet
- 4:00 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan
- 5:00 Children's Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis
- 5:30 Serie  
Fruits Et Legumes
- 5:00 Magazine  
Croisiere A L.A. Decouverte Du Monde
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
Faut Pas Rever
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 The Secrets Of Treasure Islands
- 8:00 You Bet Your Life
- 8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:10 True Blue
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Movie — Love Can Be Murder  
Starring: Jaclyn Smith & Corbin Bernsen
- 12:00 A Perfect Hero
- 12:30 Grace Under Fire

### Wednesday, Oct. 18, 1995

- 2:00 Madeline
- 2:30 Ghost Writers
- 3:00 Tomorrows World
- 3:30 Amazing Stories
- 4:00 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan
- 5:00 Children's Programme  
Les Mondes Engloutis
- 5:30 Jeux  
Pago Pago
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine  
Ushuaia, Le Magazine De L'Extreme
- 7:30 News Headlines
- 7:35 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe
- 8:00 Anything For A Laugh
- 8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:15 The Other Americas
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Prism
- 10:45 Law And Order
- 11:45 Silk Road
- 12:30 Second Thoughts



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## Arts & Fashion

Jordan Times, October 12, 1995

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### Very pregnant Jane Seymour hard at work on Dr. Quinn

By Lynn Elber  
The Associated Press  
AGOURA HILLS, California — A genuinely pregnant Jane Seymour, with rope tied carefully above her stomach's gentle swell, is wedged into a make-believe crevice of a make-believe pikes peak.

Her TV series character, Dr. Michaela Quinn, has taken a tumble while trying to climb the landmark Colorado Mountain — duplicated in a rugged suburban Los Angeles canyon — and must be hoisted to safety.

"The next thing I know, I'm flying through the air," says the actress, recounting her inadvertent stunt work from the safety of a nearby trailer.

"It would have been frightening if I didn't trust the crew. They don't want anything to happen to me. They'd really like the show to continue."

Seymour, although expecting twins in December, is hard at work in the hot, dusty state park doubling for Colorado Springs circa 1860, the setting for Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman.

Pregnancy is hampering her just a bit. The same for Dr. Quinn, which is filming around its increasingly round star to disguise her condition.

The series, on the U.S. CBS broadcast network, is in its fourth season.

"In this particular episode I'm not supposed to be pregnant at all," Seymour says. "So we've got the bedroll here and the bag there and rock here and the wagon there."

"It's an interesting exercise in choreographing your props."

And in timing, Dr. Quinn, after all, is fresh from her honeymoon with rugged mountain man Byron Sully (Joe Lando), whom she

married in last season's finale.

Well known as one of TV's few virgins, it's impossible that the good doctor would be so soon and largely pregnant. After all, she is just discovering the joy of sex — and joy it is, says Seymour.

"Having been a virgin for so long, she has discovered she really likes it (loving-making) a lot," the actress says.

Much is left to viewers' imagination. The series has cultivated a family following and is passionate about not giving offense.

"There's nothing graphic seen but there's plenty of sexual tension," Seymour says.

There will be a Quinn-Sully baby this season, arriving in the final episode. Visible pregnancy will catch up with Dr. Quinn after the actress has delivered her own newcomers.

She won't face another trauma: Finding herself unemployed.

"When I was younger, when I had my first child, I was actually fired from a (acting) job because I was pregnant," Seymour recalled.

"The same people who said 'oh, how wonderful, how incredible,' the next day told me I was a medical risk, an insurance risk, and they'd be happy if they never saw me again."

Beth Sullivan, creator and executive producer of Dr. Quinn, proved accommodating. "It's worked out perfectly," Seymour said.

The 44-year-old actress, married to actor-director James Keach, is combining family and career in a big way: Along with children Katie and Sean Michael from a previous marriage, she helps raise her stepchildren.

Dr. Quinn has her own superwoman badge of honour, as a rare 19th century



Jane Seymour as Dr. Quinn

female doctor and the adoptive mother of orphans Matthew, Colleen and Brian (played by Chad Allen, Jessica Bowman and Shawn Toovey).

Dr. Quinn, sweet-natured and with an eye toward political correctness on historical issues such as American Indian mistreatment, has taken abuse from annoyed critics.

Seymour, clearly ardent about the series, rises to a

spirited defence.

"Dr. Quinn doesn't talk down to children or adults. It opens up wonderful issues that are very relevant to today," she said.

"The history factor is terrific. How many children open up their social studies books and yawn? Now they can actually relate to the plight of native Americans? They have names, they have kids, they're people."

### Fiona Shaw's Richard II — an actress in love with risk

By Matt Wolf  
The Associated Press

LONDON — Her body bound in white, hair shorn close to the head, Fiona Shaw resembles a mummified, oddly sexless figure when she first appears as Shakespeare's Richard II.

So intriguing are Shaw and a magnificent supporting cast headed by David Threlfall as Bolingbroke that by play's end, you have forgotten what piqued your interest in the first place — that Shaw is a woman playing the bard's most lyrically spoken king.

Her performance in the Royal National Theatre production embraces childish petulance and a reserved dignity, playfulness and pain.

Having opened in June at the Cottesloe Auditorium, the production is expected to remain in the repertory at least until March, with a two-week visit to Paris in January and a further seven weeks across Europe, starting March 25, 1996.

Richard II is the sixth collaboration between English director Deborah Warner and Shaw, the London-based Irish actress known to filmgoers from My Left Foot and Mountains Of The Moon, or perhaps from exercises in Hollywood slumming like Super Mario Brothers.

In her last National Theatre outing, in Sophie Treadwell's Machinal, Shaw won an Olivier Award as best actress.

Her past teamwork with Warner on Electra and Hedda Gabler made for electrifying theatre and a lot of exposed nerves on stage.

Occasionally, you wonder whether a different director would temper Shaw's tendencies towards excess, but there is no disputing the acuity both women bring to their work.

One thing this production is not, Shaw insists, is a glib essay in gender-bending.

"I have no wish, no hope, to see a rash of cross-dressed productions," said Shaw, distinguishing the production from such recent



Fiona Shaw in the movie My Left Foot

London ventures as the popular all-male As You Like It, directed by Declan Donnellan.

The 36-year-old actress said in an interview that the production was not arrived at "lightly or quickly."

The aim had nothing to do with putting a woman in pants — or, in this case, a wrap-around white sheet and legs bandaged to match. Rather, it had everything to do with widening the definition of theatre.

"We have a very reduced imaginative menu at the moment. Theatre at its best reminds us that our imaginations are bigger than we allow them to be," Shaw said.

The production arose out of a conversation between director and star during a tour to Paris of their 1988-89 collaboration on Sophocles' Electra. "I had never done any Shakespeare with Deborah,

and we wanted to do a Shakespeare together."

Why Richard II? "This play, like a lot of his plays, is a sort of problem play," she said. "It has a theatrical centre based on femininity which had reached its cul de sac with men playing effete women."

The aim, she said, was "to throw in an unknown element and see what happens."

"The more you ask an audience to believe, the more they will believe. It's fun to break the boundaries down."

The production, accordingly, focuses less on male-female issues than on Richard's relationship to divinity in an era when the divine right of kings made any rebellion against the ruler a sin.

"We elevate some humans to beyond human. The language of the play is all

about that," said Shaw, whose restless intelligence is as evident in her conversation as it is in her acting.

The play, she said, addresses "not a man thinking he's a king, but a king who thinks he's God."

Richard II is not Shaw's first foray into reversing genders.

She recently appeared with Clare Higgins, John Wood and Alex Jennings in a National Theatre studio workshop of Congreve's comic classic "The Way Of The World, in which the women took the men's parts and vice versa."

Abandoning that project, said Shaw, was "quite a relief."

"We all left after about three days, and had a glass of champagne," she said.

Shaw returns to the Congreve comedy playing the central woman, Millamant, in an upcoming national revival, opening Oct. 19.

### Hughes twins turn from black movie stereotypes

By Steve James  
Reuters

LOS ANGELES — As young black men, twin brothers Albert and Allen Hughes are passionately concerned about racism in America, but as movie directors they do not see things in black and white.

Their new film Dead Presidents rises above race to tell a tale that affected a generation of Americans returning from war. The movie is set in New York in the 1970s and tells of the frustration of Vietnam War veterans returning to an America that did not hail them as conquering heroes.

"We wanted it to be bigger than a black film. We really wanted to stay away from race, because that's not what the movie's about," Albert Hughes told Reuters. "It's an all-American story to me. The boy's family, they're not ghetto, probably lower middle-class in the North Bronx he hangs out with his friends, hangs out down at a shady pool-hall, you can be white and do those things."

The Hughes brothers are part of a movement of black filmmakers trying to get away from stories about the violence and poverty of the ghettos and into more mainstream issues with wider appeal.

"We want to make our

own niche in the market. We definitely feel very strongly about racism and we speak out about it, but in the movies it's just a waste of time when you've got three other guys dealing with it every year," Allen Hughes said. "Other black film-makers are heavy on that subject matter, that's their area and why should we do the same thing?"

"Yes, and when they deal with it they're pointing to the obvious — social commentary, you know, stuff the average white guy would already know," his brother chimed in. "You can turn a lot of people off like that if you don't do it the right way."

The Hughes twins, with a string of hip-hop videos and shorts to their credit, have already made their "ghetto" film as 20-year-old directors of the critically acclaimed Menace II Society that premiered at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival.

Their new film tells how black Marine Anthony Curtis, played by Laurence Fishburne, survives Vietnam only to discover that the country he served scorns him rather than rewarding him. After losing his job and his girlfriend, he contributes to his own downfall by associating with black militants and an ill-advised scheme to rob an armoured car full of Dead Presidents — street slang for money.

"He goes away to war and he and all of his friends get their innocence taken away from them. They get back and commit a heist, it's not a racial issue," Allen Hughes said. "There are certain things we hit on as far as black vets coming home. It wasn't like we said they had a harder time getting jobs, which they did."

"The main character, he doesn't think about race, which is very much unlike us and kind of hard to do," Albert added.

The film, with a soundtrack like a who's-who of soul music, captures the feel of New York City in the 1970s. "(British director) John Schlesinger did Midnight Cowboy and came to New York. The thing he brought to it was that naked eye, he totally captured New York like it needed to be captured," Albert Hughes said.

In a similar way, the twins did painstaking research into a period they never experienced, having been born in 1973.

"We had a complete naked eye to that period, so anything from that period caught our eye. The icons from that era are what we were using," Albert said.

"People were asking us when we were making the movie, 'what do you know about this? You weren't around, you weren't in Vietnam,'" his brother interjected.

"Film-makers aren't supposed to live through the experience that they capture on film. You don't necessarily have to be in that atmosphere to tell the best story, in fact you can tell a better story. Kubrick didn't fly to the moon (to make 2001-A Space Odyssey), Coppola wasn't in Vietnam for Apocalypse Now, but he definitely highlighted images that only he could have done."

The twins, who studied at Los Angeles Community College Film School, count several white directors as influences.

"Sergio Leone — he was a master filmmaker. Ahead of his time and he died before his time," Albert Hughes said.

"We want to structure our career path more after someone like him or Kubrick — they don't do movies year after year after year. They stop, live life and develop their projects. Some of the film-makers today, they make film after film after film, they lose the perspective of living life."

His brother added: "The Asphalt Jungle, is one of our favourites and you've got Scarface, the 1932 version, the Cagney films. The greatest movie-making was back then."

### Record companies pump up the volume on British pop

By Leslie Adler  
Reuters

LONDON — More than 30 years after the Beatles made British pop an international phenomenon, the music scene in Britain is once again reverberating to a popular beat.

Music companies such as Polygram's Island Records and Thorn EMI's EMI Music are investing huge sums to promote British acts and hundreds of thousands of dollars on live tours. The investments are paying off in a wave of top-selling albums.

British pop music never died, of course. But from the mid-1980s through to the early 1990s the enormous success of American grunge artists such as Pearl Jam and Nirvana turned British pop acts into bit players on the musical stage.

Since the early 1990s, British pop has been making a comeback, with groups such as Blur and Oasis displacing American acts at the top of the British charts.

"The few years after punk, the early 80s, the middle, late 80s, it was a British desert," said Stuart Maconie, a British music writer for publications such as Q.

Blur, one of the hottest "Britpop" groups and marketed by EMI's Parlophone label, last year saw its album Parklife sell more than 900,000 copies in Britain alone.

Help, an album made to benefit the Bosnian relief charity War Child and fea-

turing Britain's top-selling artists such as Blur, the Stone Roses, Portishead, the Chemical Brothers and the Charlatans became the number one album on the second day of its release.

Help, has sold 250,000 copies in Britain since its release on Sept. 9 and another 100,000 copies in Europe.

"In the U.K. there is a renaissance in British pop music," said David Hughes, a spokesman for EMI Music. "I think we're enjoying the healthiest period we have had in a long time."

The renewed popularity of British groups is, as much as anything, a reaction to the success of American acts.

"American music dominated the culture (at) the beginning of the 90s. People had enough of that," said Maconie.

He believes Blur marked the revival of Britain's musical fortunes. "Blur was the first to say 'we don't want to know what's coming out of America. We don't care about Pearl Jam. We don't care about Nirvana'," he said.

Mark Marot, managing director of Island Records, whose artists include Pulp and Ireland's U2, said the dominance of American acts allowed British groups to experiment and develop a unique sound.

"Over the last five years, the received wisdom has been that the U.K.'s talent has been on the wane," Marot said. "In a peculiar way that meant artists and record companies took a

step back from this blank package that 'you must break in America'."

"I am quite certain that British music is once again much more original than it was perhaps five years ago, perhaps three years ago," he said. "It's really a rediscovery of Britishness."

Just what makes this music distinctively British? "In Blur's case they sing in almost exaggeratedly British accents," said Maconie. "The music is very melodic in a way that Pearl Jam's or Nirvana's music isn't."

"The strongest form of British music usually has got its roots in fairly straight forward melodic rhythm and blues," said Tony Crean, a spokesman for Go Discs, the record label that produced the Help charity album.

"The Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Who, the Sex Pistols, Oasis and Blur — there's a line that runs through all those artists," said Crean.

Maconie said the new crop of British groups avoided the hopelessness and despair that characterised grunge. "I think the British bands are much more lighthearted... They have much more of a sense of humour."

For all the success of British groups in their home territory, they have had limited acclaim in the United States, which accounts for about 50 per cent of worldwide music sales.

"There's been such a rich vein of talent coming out of America that has been so

capable of satisfying American audiences that even the major record companies have not needed British music," said Island Records' Marot.

The nature of American radio and the importance of touring in the United States make it difficult for foreign acts to break there.

"It's a developed market for gigs," said Marot. "It seems to be no coincidence that the acts that are breaking that come from the U.K. Market — like the Cranberries, Bush, Live, Radiohead, Oasis, Blur — all of the acts are acts that play live."

A U.S. tour of two dozen dates costs about \$250,000 and a group often needs to repeat such tours two or three times.

Because U.S. radio stations favour a niche format, with stations focusing on specific genres such as country or rap, it is difficult for groups that do not fit an existing mould to get the air time that can bring record sales.

"It's not too early to say that British music is back on its feet again," said Marot. "But to say that... American music is on the wane and British music is going to rise up and take over again, I think it's far too early to say."

"Many of us feel the seeds are sown and we're going to work on it," he said. "But it might be three or four years before it becomes a reality."



## New method enables test-tube embryos to be screened for cancer

LONDON (AFP) — British doctors are to use for the first time a method that enables them to identify whether a test-tube embryo will develop cancer in later life, the Daily Telegraph reported.

The paper said the test, which would take place before the embryo was implanted in the mother, opened the way to screening out embryos at high risk of cancer, notably breast and bowel cancer.

But Robert Winston, who led the team that developed the test at Britain's largest fertility clinic at Hammersmith Hospital in West London, warned

Monday that it would "cause some furore" when it was announced to the public.

"It raises quite serious ethical issues," he told the Telegraph.

"You would be screening for a disease that does not cause childhood death but death after the age of 30 or 40," he said.

The paper pointed out that screening out such individuals could impoverish the world. It cited the physicist Albert Einstein and the composer Franz Schubert as examples of individuals who did some of their greatest work before the age of 30.

Dr. Winston first developed the technique to identify the sex of an embryo so that parents who carried disorders that would affect only boys could ensure that female test-tube babies were transferred to the mother, according to the Telegraph.

The research team then extended the technique to deciding if the embryo carried a defective gene causing a hereditary disease.

They are now assessing the ethical and technical issues involved in the fertilisation of several embryos who did some of their greatest work before the age of 30.

and brain cancer.

"I think the general feeling is that it is justifiable if the parents want it, and there is a serious chance of death," Dr. Winston told the paper.

At present, genetic assessment of embryos is carried out after the embryo has been implanted, by sampling the amniotic fluid or by examining embryonic cells in the placenta, the paper said.

The new technique may help prospective parents avoid facing the possibility of an abortion in the event of a positive test for a cancer gene, according to the Telegraph.

## Doctors split on whether to recommend obesity drug

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (AFP) — Doctors on a government panel have failed to agree on whether the possible threat of brain damage should derail a new obesity drug.

An initial vote by an advisory committee for the Food and Drug Administration rejected 5-3 the drive by Interneuron to get its weight-loss drug Dextenfatrine approved even though tests showed it helped people lose weight.

But an emotional plea by panel member Nemat

Borhani to do something about American obesity prompted the committee to take another vote, this time on approving the drug in exchange for a guarantee from Interneuron to do massive tests on the first people who use it.

Because there were not enough members on the second vote, the matter was postponed. Though votes by advisory committees are not binding, the FDA usually follows the recommendation.

"I cannot live with my

conscience tonight," Mr. Borhani told the panel members after the first vote. "We are dealing with a very severe epidemic of obesity, without current medical treatment."

Obesity, which is defined as being more than 20 per cent above one's ideal weight, is responsible for 300,000 deaths per year in the United States, and causes 20 million new illnesses per year.

Panel members opposed to approval said Interneuron had failed to provide, when

given the chance, better information on the risks involved.

Tests have shown the drug causes brain damage when given in very high doses to animals, prompting concern about its possible effects on the thousands who would likely use it.

The company said Dextenfatrine would be sold at much lower doses — 10 to 20 times lower — than those given to the animals.

## Surgeons perform Parkinson's treatment on brain

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP) — A 48-year-old Parkinson's sufferer underwent a new procedure in which an electronic device is implanted in a person's body to thwart the tremors, rigidity and other symptoms of the disease.

During the eight-hour operation at the University of Kansas Medical Centre, surgeons placed a pulse generator the size of a coin in Gary Shikles' chest. Attached to the device is a wire threaded under the skin of his neck and into a region of the brain called the globus pallidus.

Hospital spokesman Randy Atwood said it was the first such procedure —

called a pallidal stimulation — in the United States, although previous operations in this country have implanted the device into the thalamus portion of the brain.

Pallidal stimulation has been performed in Europe since the 1980s, according to Judy Rosner, executive director of the United Parkinson Foundation in Chicago.

Thalamus stimulation has significantly reduced tremors in Parkinson's patients, but it does not improve the drug-induced side effects of involuntary movements, muscular rigidity and other symptoms, medical centre officials

said. Pallidal stimulation might help where thalamus stimulation does not.

Parkinson's is a progressive, degenerative disease of unknown origin that kills off dopamine-producing neurons. A low supply of dopamine triggers overactivity in the globus pallidus.

Shikles will switch on the pulse generator by rubbing a magnet over the implanted device. That will stimulate the pallidus and jam nerve signals that cause the tremors and rigidity, the hospital said.

Adjusting the generator to full power will take doctors several days, but tests during surgery showed it was helping, Shikles' doctor

said. "He had very marked improvement in his rigidity. His movements were much more fluid," said neurosurgeon Dr. Steven Wilkinson.

An estimated 500,000 Americans have Parkinson's.

The disease causes Shikles' leg and stomach muscles to cramp painfully, and his arms and legs to flail uncontrollably.

While calling the procedure safe and noting it's reversible, Ms. Rosner cautioned, "by no stretch should it be seen as a cure or as ending progression" of the disease.

## Multiple sclerosis vaccine trial yields encouraging results

By Randi Hutter Epstein  
The Associated Press

LONDON — A very small Belgian trial suggests that a vaccine for multiple sclerosis made from a patient's own immune cells may help slow the progression of the crippling nerve disease.

Other experts were intrigued with the concept but skeptical that the vaccine would ever be a widely available cure.

The vaccine dramatically reduced the number of bouts of multiple sclerosis in eight volunteers traced for two years, said Dr. Jef Rans, one of the investigators at the Multiple Sclerosis Research and Immunology Unit in Diepenbeek, Belgium.

But he added he is "very cautious," because so few patients have been tested.

The difficulty about assessing new treatments for the disease is that it comes in bouts. It is difficult to know whether a

treatment is truly working or whether the patient would have had a few symptom-free years anyway.

The findings are published in the current issue of the Lancet, a medical journal.

Multiple sclerosis is a disease in which the patient's immune cells attack the nerves. No one knows why the body seems to turn against itself, nor is there a cure.

Immune cells target myelin, the cushioning sheath around nerve fibers. As myelin deteriorates, nerve signals go awry. Victims have trouble controlling their movements. Many patients have trouble walking. They may also suffer from blurred vision, slurred speech and tremors.

All too often, promising results from small experiments like this one do not pan out in large-scale trials.

The vaccine was made by removing a sample of

the patients' own immune cells, and then weakening the cells so they no longer work. In essence they are merely shells masquerading as defense cells.

The investigators grew these lame cells and injected a massive dose back into the patients.

Dr. Rans believes the presence of these non-working cells shuts down the body's own immune cell production. In essence, the vaccine fools the body into stopping its assault on the nervous system.

The concept is being tested in other diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes. Dr. Michael Lockshin, a multiple sclerosis expert with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, said "this is one of a number of important immunological manipulations that both inform us about the mechanism of the disease and will possibly lead to something more direct."

"I suspect no widely available cure will result

from T-cell vaccination itself, but there may be T-cell products that can be used in one way or another," he added.

Researchers gave the eight volunteers three doses of the vaccine.

Two vaccinated patients did not suffer any bouts of the disease for at least two years after vaccination. Three patients, who had had 16 bouts of the disease in the two years prior to vaccination, suffered only three bouts during the course of the trial, said Dr. Rans.

The other three continued to have bouts of the disease. But researchers gave them another personalized vaccine made from different immune cells. After the second vaccine, the progression of the disease slowed, said Dr. Rans. In comparison, eight unvaccinated patients with multiple sclerosis showed no improvement in their disease.

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

COUCH POTATO FARE  
By Grace C. Pinkston

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Diagramless, 17A x 19D

By Frances Burton

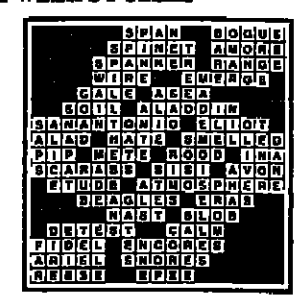
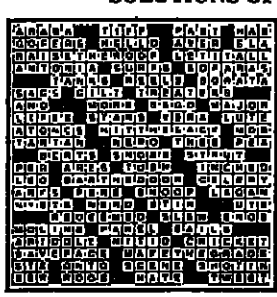
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### SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



## Exercise alleviates PMS mood states

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Women who exercise regularly suffer less from impaired concentration, negative emotions, behavior change, and pain during premenstrual syndrome (PMS) than women who do not exercise, found a recent study in the Journal of Psychosomatic Research.

Researchers compared women who regularly exercise with healthy but generally non-exercising women drawn mainly from university undergraduates. Subjects filled out questionnaires assessing menstrual distress and overall emotions during, before, and after menstruation.

Women who exercised frequently felt better at all stages of their menstrual cycle. Women who engaged in regular, moderate, aerobic exercise experienced lower levels of anger, contempt, disgust, sadness, hostility, fear, shame, shyness, and guilt. Positive mood states such as interest, joy, and surprise were unaffected by exercise.

Among physical and

psychological symptoms associated with the menstrual cycle, pain, impaired concentration, negative affect, and behavior change were all lower among the regular exercisers.

The authors noted that "although it appears that there is some amelioration of negative mood states" with exercise, there is no clear scientific explanation for their findings. Some researchers suggest that exercise triggers the release of mood-enhancing endorphins in the body. Other researchers offer more psychological explanations such as exercise improves body image all self-confidence, thus boosting self-esteem or, exercise may act as a distraction from negative intrusive thoughts and allow more positive or self-esteem enhancing thoughts to surface.

Increased social contact that is frequently available for regular exercisers may be an added personal benefit — U.S. National Institute of Healthcare Research.

## Norplant distributor studying drug

CLEVELAND (AP) — Five years after the U.S. government approved the contraceptive Norplant, the distributor has started an inquiry into the drug's long-term effects, a newspaper reported.

Researchers at Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories asked for the study because of a lack of information, especially about the implant's

effects on teenagers, the newspaper said, quoting corporate documents.

The company wants to track many side effects of the small capsules surgically implanted in the upper arm to provide five years of continuous birth control.

More than 200 lawsuits over Norplant have been filed in the United States.

## ANSWERS BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. The OBELISK (Cleopatra's Needle) originally taken from Heliopolis, Egypt, and brought to England. The second obelisk taken to New York Central Park.
2. Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar.
3. The recording, on tape, of pictures.
4. A jelly made from seaweed and used for cultivating bacteria.
5. A rum-like spirit made by distilling the juice of sugar-cane.
6. Suttie.

### PUZZLES

- (A) MENDELSSOHN.  
(B) The letter M



## What schools need: A liberal teacher's surprising answers

By William Raspherry

WASHINGTON — Albert Shanker won't dismiss the efforts at renewing, reforming and reorganising our schools. He'll stand with those who insist on more financing, tighter standards or better-trained, better-paid teachers.

But he believes these things don't have much to do with why so many of our children aren't learning. And what does? The simple loss of discipline.

It may be an unexpected answer from the president of the American Federation of Teachers — at least if you expect union officials to support and exonerate their members while blaming their difficulties on others.

But Mr. Shanker believes it is the right answer — and believes also that unless we deal with discipline none of the other reforms will make any difference. "A lot of what we're seeing in the educational politics of the country, including the movement for choice and charter schools

and educational vouchers, is frustration with the government's inability to do the basic things that everybody knows need to be done — like ordinary discipline," he said recently.

"Parents want their children in schools where they can be safe and where there's not so much disorder that kids can't learn. And if we can't provide such a place, they say, 'give me a chance to take them somewhere else.' That's what the 'choice' movement is mostly about."

So where did discipline go? What caused the violence?

Mr. Shanker doesn't mention television or movies or gangsta rap, though he surely believes all these play a role. He puts the blame much closer to home.

"The amount of disruption in our schools is much larger than it needs to be because it is tolerated," he said. "A second-grade youngster has an outburst — maybe he curses at the teacher, or throws something at another kid, and

nothing happens. At recess, he taunts his buddies, tells them how tough he is and how chicken they are. One kid, and then another, reacts to the challenge and pretty soon you've got a classroom that's unmanageable."

The same dynamic works with older children, he said. "If the schools aren't seen as taking it seriously when a kid comes to school with a gun," he said, "you'll soon see other kids coming to school with guns — in self-defence, of course. At first, then they'll use them to intimidate, and worse. And once again, the result is an unmanageable school."

How bad is it? A majority of schools in the country are plagued with violence. There are some schools in Brooklyn and the Bronx where new teachers have lasted for as little as three days. But almost as important as outright violence is the growing incidence of substantial disruption. "At least in the worst cases of violence, students may be expelled," he said. "But when it is 'only' disruption,

teachers are forced to concentrate on one youngster, or two, and neglect the rest."

Mr. Shanker, whose union has started a campaign to restore order to schools, acknowledges that discipline "isn't the only piece" of the puzzle of academic failure, just an essential piece. It is also the one thing that private schools are free to enforce, which, Mr. Shanker argues, is one of the reasons for the growing interest in non-public schools.

The other major piece of the solution, he says, is the issue of standards, not the nebulous "each child must reach his or her potential" or the impossible "first in the world in math by 2000."

"What is needed are standards that relate to the children — that require some stretching but are still achievable."

But won't standards that "stretch" the slowest students bore the brightest, and those that challenge the brightest leave the slower students in a fog?

There is, says Mr.

Shanker, a way out: Tracking.

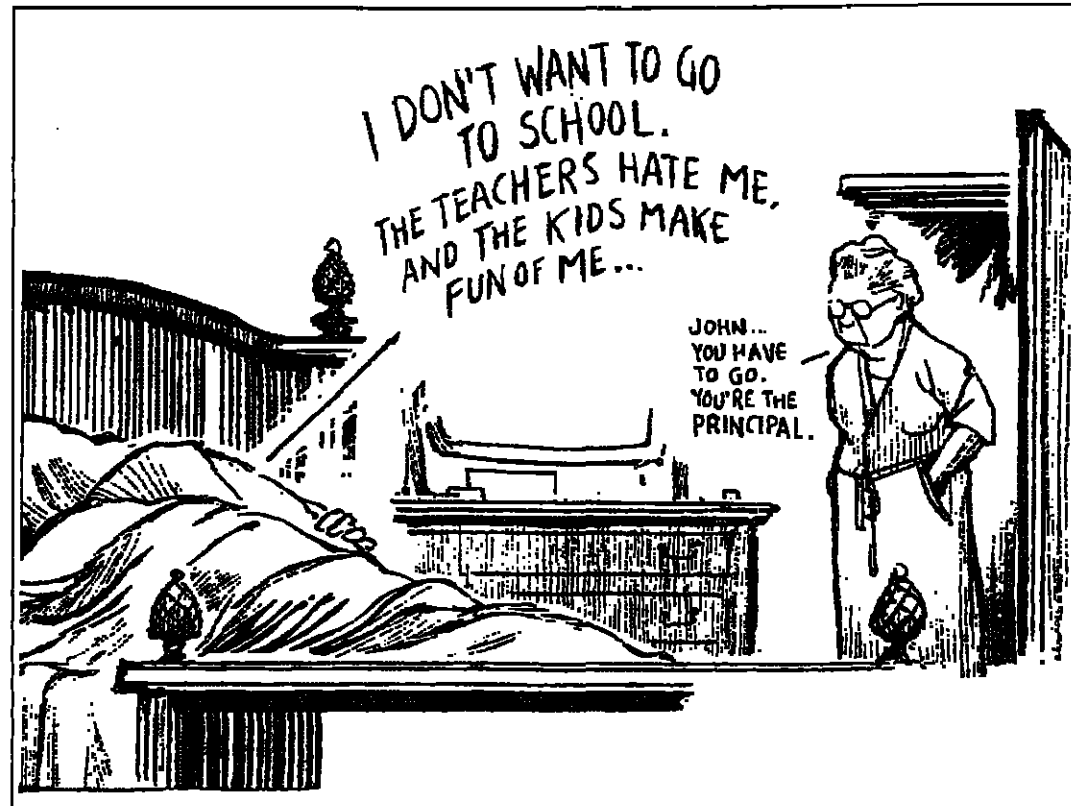
Again he gives the unexpected answer. Tracking has been so thoroughly castigated by Mr. Shanker's fellow liberals that hardly any moderate dares mention it.

"Parents want it," Mr. Shanker said.

"They remember being left out while teachers focused on the other kids, whether those other kids were brighter or slower. They don't mind tracking as long as it includes second chances, so you don't get locked in a slow track."

But suppose the lower tracks wind up full of minority youngsters?

"In the inner cities, most of the discipline cases will be minority children, but so



will the beneficiaries of lessened disruption. The same is true for tracking. In the suburbs, the racial disparities on tracking or dis-

cipline are a problem, but it's just something we have to face and deal with." After all, he said, "Running away from it, tol-

erating disruption and failure, is what got us in trouble in the first place."

The Washington Post

## Bosnia ceasefire set

(Continued from page 1)

The ceasefire initially was planned for Monday night but was postponed because gas deliveries had not resumed to Sarajevo. Tuesday, the government proposed another 24-hour delay to secure full restoration of utilities.

In another grim pre-truce

straggling into government-held territory.

Kris Janowski, spokesman for the U.N. aid agency, said expulsions were accelerating. About 6,000 people already have been expelled and up to 8,000 more were expected in the next few days.

Relief officials were particularly concerned about the fate of draft-age Muslim men being separated from their families.

## Jordan gearing up to attract investments

(Continued from page 12)

solely on sound statistics or new legislation. "Whatever happens as far as new laws are concerned, a cut in corporate taxes or, on paper at least, making it easier for foreigners to invest, this is still a rumour-and-politically-driven market," says Khaled Masri, senior manager for international investment at Arab Jordan Investment Bank (AJIB).

King Hussein has exerted every effort during the past three years to create a political environment that ensures stability and guarantees the country's economic future. Relations with the Gulf are improving steadily after the nadir in 1991 following Jordan's failure to join the U.S.-led military coalition against Iraq. Strained ties with Saudi Arabia are now returning to ambassadorial level, and even icy relations with Kuwait are beginning to thaw.

More significant was the signing of the 1994 peace agreement with Israel. Economic ties are likely to grow only cautiously with the Jewish state, as questions are still being raised about the extent to which ties between the two sides should be normalised. However, the deal has paved the way for some debt forgiveness from the West, notably the U.S., as well as

opening up new opportunities in the Palestinian market on the West Bank.

Yet it is the plight of one country, more than any other of Jordan's neighbours, which is the focus of attention for Jordan's business community and foreign investors. As Masri at AJIB explains: "Our relation to Iraq is more important to us than any potential relationship with Israel or the Palestinians, or even the Gulf." But frustratingly for King Hussein, there is almost no diplomatic pressure he has been able to exert to influence the U.N. Security Council's decision to maintain sanctions during the past four years. A decision which has had a greater economic impact than any improvement of ties with Israel or the Gulf.

Jordan's geographic fate continues to weigh heavily on its economic prospects. The investment laws will be welcomed at the Amman summit, and the economic turnaround achieved during the past five years will no doubt be applauded. But until Iraq joins the commercial world, the pension fund managers are likely to focus their gaze eastwards and on the U.N. before they are prompted to unlock the coffers that would transform Jordan's investment fortunes.

## Brotherhood reaffirms commitment

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian cause and we support the Palestinians. But Hamas is an Islamic Palestinian faction that is directing its operations on the land of Palestine," he said.

"It is not in the interest of the Palestinian people and

from Islamic movements in other Arab countries.

"We did not face what our brothers in Egypt and Algeria had faced. The Islamic experience in Jordan is... a model for Islamic action," he noted.

## Reports preempt easing of sanctions

(Continued from page 1)

were genuinely to translate its statements into action, there would be a real hope for the completion of the task entrusted to the Special Commission within a reasonable time-frame."

Scrappling of weapons of mass destruction is key to lifting the oil embargo, part of the sanctions imposed on Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

The tenor of his 38-page report, however, was negative and Mr. Ekeus said the commission's preliminary analysis of new documents Iraq had revealed in August showed Baghdad had been concealing prohibited arms activities, causing the commission to revise many assessments in its early re-

ports.

Some of the information in the report had been revealed by Mr. Ekeus in August, but Mr. Ekeus told Reuters Iraq still had not filled in all the gaps.

The report confirmed press reports in August that Iraq had hidden a large nuclear and chemical weapons programme in 1990.

The UNSCOM report also said Iraq had made "a formal, but essentially false, declaration" to the commission about "a hitherto secret offensive biological weapons programme."

That programme comprised large-scale production of biological warfare agents, filling and deploying missile warheads and aerial bombs with agents, and work of

## Assad: Peace talks easier after polls

(Continued from page 1)

tions, scheduled for November next year.

Mr. Dromi stressed that Likud "completely blocked negotiations with Syria before 1992 and the right-wing opposition even rejects the principle of a withdrawal from the Golan in exchange for peace," accepted by the government.

"The root of the problem is that Syria wants everything now before even starting to negotiate," the spokesman added.

"Damascus wants Israel to announce today that it is ready to withdraw from the Golan to the lines of June 4, 1967, and gives up the idea of having early warning stations. No Israeli government will accept such conditions, before or after the elections," Mr. Assad stressed his

opposition to allowing Israeli early warning stations on the strategic Golan Heights, which Israel has occupied since 1967. "That symbolises the occupation," he said, calling for aerial surveillance instead.

Security arrangements to accompany any Israeli withdrawal from the Golan have become the main stumbling block to progress in the negotiations.

Mr. Assad, however, praised his U.S. counterpart Bill Clinton for his efforts to find a solution. "President Clinton is a man who wants a just peace," he said.

Mr. Assad explained that Syria would not take part in the forthcoming Middle East and North Africa economic summit in Amman because it regarded such meetings as a threat to Arabs and an

attempt to destroy the Arab League.

Lebanon is also boycotting the summit in Amman. Israel and about 60 other nations will attend.

The Syrian president said that economic development in the Middle East would be better served by countries concluding treaties with countries such as Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan.

"Such summits are of no benefits. The direct aim is to normalise without (full) peace and to put pressure on those who did not. This is why we will not attend," Mr. Assad added.

"The Middle Eastern market is an economic and political concern for Israel because it will arrange the economy in a way that makes the road open more towards the enemies," he said.

## Israel

(Continued from page 1)

ploy troops from six cities and parts of a seventh, and hand over control of some 450 villages, towns and refugee camps to Palestinian police.

Under the accord, Israel will retain overall security responsibility in rural areas. While Palestinian police will maintain law and order in the villages, Israeli troops are entitled to enter the villages.

Israel said on Wednesday it freed nearly 900 Palestinians in the first prisoner release of the West Bank peace deal, despite PLO expectations many would refuse to go to show solidarity with inmates left behind.

Police spokesman Eric Bar-Chen said that of more than 5,000 prisoners held by Israel, 882 were set free on

Tuesday — 507 jailed for security offences against the occupation and 375 convicted of crimes.

Mr. Bar-Chen said Israel was ready to hand over a further 84 convicted criminals to the PNA, bringing the total to 966, but the authority had yet to send someone to collect them.

Scores of freed prisoners returned home to a tearful welcome on Tuesday, even though the PLO said many would refuse to go in protest at what the PLO said was Israel's broken promise to free all women prisoners.

Mr. Bar-Chen said he knew of three convicted criminals who refused to go. A military spokesman said he was checking whether any prisoners jailed for security offences had also refused to go in protest.

The Sunday Times



## Iran cuts imports to pay foreign debt, diplomats say

DUBAI (R) — Iran has slashed imports from its major trading partners so that it can build up enough hard currency reserves to service its foreign debt, diplomats in Tehran say.

They said Iran has reduced purchases of goods from Germany, Japan, Britain, Italy and France by up to half this year so that it can begin to service a rescheduled annual debt of between \$5 billion and \$6 billion.

"The cutback in imports, which we saw last year, is continuing this year ... the country is keeping its import bill to the minimum," a Western diplomat in Tehran told Reuters.

Ability to service its total estimated debt of \$30 billion may determine whether Iran can secure further foreign investment to finance industrial expansion projects in its second five-year plan (1995-2000), diplomats say.

Iran managed to cut its imports to \$12.6 billion in the last Iranian year (March 1994-March 1995) from an unsustainable level of \$24 billion in 1991-1992, official state figures show.

Although oil revenues increased between January and May because of higher oil prices — Iran is the world's second largest oil exporter — the clampdown on imports, particularly on manufactured goods, is still evident in the first few months of this Iranian year (March 1995-March 1996), diplomats say.

Tehran's wish to build currency reserves is also seen in its enforcing stringent currency exchange laws that require most exporters to repatriate their hard currency earnings and a clampdown on currency smuggling out of the country.

Statistics from trade missions in Tehran show that the Iranian authorities are keeping tight controls over import levels despite warnings from local businessmen that a lack of imported spare parts and manufactured goods could hit local industry and hamper economic growth.

Imports from Germany, Iran's main Western trading partner, in the first four months of 1995 fell a further 25 per cent compared to the same period last year to \$666 million, official embassy statistics show.

German exports alone fell 37 per cent in 1994 from 1993.

Japan's trade with Iran, mainly exports of machinery and equipment spare parts, has dropped by nearly half in the first six months of the year to \$350 million from \$661 million in the corresponding period in 1994.

French trade has fallen 10 per cent in the first half of the year to some \$300 million and Italian trade halved to \$124 million in the first three months of 1995.

British exports have held steady, according to statistics up to the end of July which show Iran imported \$318 million worth of British goods and services, compared to \$316 million in the same period last year.

Iran is also limiting imports from outside the major trading countries.

Last month parliament banned imports of soft drinks, chocolate and toys as non-essential goods.

## IMF and World Bank pledge more help for member nations

WASHINGTON (R) — IMF and World Bank leaders pledged Tuesday to do more to help their 180 member nations cope with the vast changes sweeping across the world economy.

Speaking at the formal opening of the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and World Bank, the two leaders warned rich nations against turning their backs on the poor, and developing countries against trying to wall themselves off from an increasingly competitive and open world economy.

"The developing countries deserve our support for moral and social reasons," new World Bank President James Wolfensohn said. "But they also need our support because they represent future growth for us all."

Mr. Wolfensohn, who has only been on the job for four months, unveiled his new vision for the off-criticized institution, calling for a compact between the bank, donor countries and borrowers to build a better future for the world's poorest.

He promised to break what he called the "armlock" that bureaucracy has placed on the 6,000-strong bank and hindered it from accomplishing its goal of eradicating global poverty.

IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus told the meeting his organization was working on ways to prevent and contain future Mexico-style economic crises, where billions of dollars can flee countries at the flick of a computer switch.

On the surface, the world economy has not looked brighter for a long time.

Growth in the industrial countries is picking up after a pause earlier this year. Inflation is the lowest it has been in a generation. And many developing countries are doing better as well.

"World economic growth in 1995 will be at least as strong as in 1994, and 1996 could see the strongest growth in eight years," Mr. Camdessus said.

But the short-term outlook is clouded by a longer-term question — is the only superpower turning its back on the rest of the world?

Eager to cut bulging budget deficits to ensure prosperity and freed of responsibilities for fighting the cold war, the United States is turning its attention to domestic economic problems it has long ignored.

The immediate focus of concern at the annual meeting was the future of the International Development Association (IDA), an \$18-billion World Bank affiliate that lends money to the world's poorest nations at no interest charge.

Tight-fisted U.S. lawmakers are poised to slash U.S. contributions to IDA, and other rich nations are threatening to follow suit.

"If there is a seriously under-funded IDA, we will be faced with a world of increasingly unstable nations," Mr. Wolfensohn said. "Some of the ministers here today will have to abandon clean water supply... or for moving soldiers out of barracks and into small farms."

## China approved 474 state mergers, bankruptcies

BEIJING (R) — China has identified 474 state-owned enterprises that could be merged or declared bankrupt in an attempt to eliminate loss-making industries in 18 pioneer cities, the China Securities said.

Of the 474 enterprises, 161 have started the process of going bankrupt, it said, quoting Chen Qinglai, vice-minister of the state Economic and Trade Commission.

Of these, 58 state firms have already declared bankruptcy. 20 are in the process of going bankrupt and 83 are about to start down the road to liquidation, he said.

China has been trying to force lumbering state enterprises to go bankrupt, but has slowed its efforts amid fears that breaking the taboo from the days of central planning could spark mass unemployment and social unrest.

Debt of the 58 bankrupt firms totaled 3.2 billion yuan (\$385 million), while total assets stood at 1.87 billion yuan (\$227 million), Mr. Chen said. The bankrupt firms have found jobs for 99 per cent of their 53,000 employees, he added.

The government would exempt companies that merge from interest payments on loans or suspend interest to encourage mergers, he said.

A total of 7.79 billion yuan (\$938 million) in bank interest, or 3.13 per cent of unpaid principal and interest on loans, would be suspended or scrapped if all the companies concerned were to merge with other companies, he said.

In southern Jiangsu province, a debt-ridden state firm was put up for auction by a court in Donstai city, the legal daily said. The food company had had debts 310,000 yuan (\$37,349) and no way to repay, it said.

## Arab Gulf economies set to grow in 1995 — study

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The economies of six Arab Gulf oil producers are projected to grow by around 2.1 per cent in 1995 because of reforms and improvement in crude prices, a bank study published in the UAE daily Al Khaleej has said.

The gross domestic product (GDP) of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is forecast to reach \$207.6 billion in 1995 compared with \$203.2 billion in 1994, showed the study by Henry Azzam, chief economist at the National Commercial Bank, the biggest bank in Saudi Arabia.

The study showed the economies of all member states would record positive growth rates after a decline in the GDP of some members in the previous year.

Saudi Arabia's GDP, which accounts for nearly a quarter of the total GDP of the Arab League's 22 members, would likely rise to around \$122 billion in 1995 from \$120.8 billion in 1994, Mr. Azzam said.

The UAE GDP is projected to grow to around \$38 billion from \$36.6 billion and Kuwait's to \$24.2 billion from \$22.9 billion. Bahrain, Oman and Qatar are also expected to record small growth rates.

Mr. Azzam gave no projections for oil prices but Gulf analysts expect them to average more than \$16 by the end of the year. This compares with \$15.5 in 1994 and \$16.33 in 1993.

Oil provides more than 80 per cent of the GCC's total income and 30-40 per cent of their GDP. The decline in crude prices over the past decade has showed down Gulf economies and turned a budget surplus into a deficit.

Most GCC countries have launched privatisation programmes and other reforms to revive their economies. The reforms were coupled with cuts in state expenditure to contain the growing shortfall.

Mr. Azzam's figures showed the combined GCC deficit was slashed to a projected \$10.8 billion in 1995 from \$17 billion in 1994 and a record \$37.8 billion in 1991, when Gulf states made huge payments to finance an international drive to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

The decline was mainly due to a sharp cut in the Saudi deficit, which was slashed to \$4 billion from \$10.6 billion. Kuwait's shortfall was also trimmed to \$4.5 billion from \$4.9 billion.

The measures pushed down the combined GCC deficit to 5.2 per cent of the GDP in 1995 from 8.4 per cent in 1994. The 1995 figure was the lowest since 1989.

"The GCC budgets over the past few years were of a contracted nature, which could be considered as the beginning of a tangible change in the policies of general expenditure and the government role in the economy," Mr. Azzam said.

"It is obvious the Gulf governments have decided to adopt the principle of 'spending within the available resources' to restore financial balance and put a brake on the racing deficit and debt," he added.

## France blames budget, franc woes on speculators

PARIS (R) — The French government, reeling from a crippling civil servant strike and a falling franc, blamed Anglo-Saxon currency speculators Wednesday for its woes.

Government spokesman Francois Baroin vowed to resist foreign exchange markets, which he said were trying to damage the franc to push the government to trim budget deficits.

"The markets, mainly British and U.S., wanted to stare a speculative run on the franc. They wanted to send a message to the government which said: We do not want to see your deficits so high, make an effort and above all, don't give in to the public sector," Mr. Baroin said on French radio France Inter.

"Well, the government does not want to sacrifice its public sector to meet the interests of foreign investors," he said.

The public sector staged Tuesday's 24-hour strike to protest against the government's refusal to grant a general pay rise.

Prime Minister Alain Juppe has insisted that civil servants' pay must be kept under control to trim the deficits and lay the groundwork for future economic growth and lower unemployment.

But financial markets are sceptical of his ability to hold the line on public sector wages and keep a promise to cut the budget deficit from five per cent to three per cent of gross domestic product in the next two years, analysts say.

In recent years France has made a habit of sniping at "Anglo-Saxon" currency speculators, who it accuses of trying to break the link between the franc and the German mark, the keystone of a future single European currency.

## U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin told the meeting that the Clinton administration would make its "utmost effort" to make sure the United States met its international obligations, but he added he could not promise results from Congress.

Both Mr. Wolfensohn and Mr. Camdessus pledged to make best use of the money and resources they have to help countries cope with an increasingly complex world economy where \$1 trillion changes hands every day on world currency markets.

Mr. Wolfensohn said the bank too needed to adjust to a vastly changed world, increasing its focus on end results, not just on lending volumes.

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Don't permit others to influence you where important decisions are concerned today. Show that you have good judgement.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Your ideas may be different from those of a higher-up at this time, but don't jump to any conclusions which could be erroneous.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Make sure you keep any promises you have made to close friends and loved ones and don't chase after new interests at this time. This evening is fine for cleaning house.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Your intuition may not be working properly today so be sure to use your best judgement, for your intuition has always been a good measuring device.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Some morning agreement reached with an outside partner can later today turn into a disagreement unless you use tact and diplomacy in handling a situation.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Labour starts off well early this morning, but later today there can be delays, so be practical instead of swiftly losing your temper.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Count the cost well before you get into amusements which could prove to be well beyond your ken. Show that you are thoughtful.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) The situation at home could get really bothersome if you do not use tact with close ties and fellow associates who can be of assistance.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) There may be pressures all around you today, but try to maintain poise and charm others into accepting whatever decisions you have developed.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Go over your holdings precisely and know what your true position is about a new assignment and plan the future more intelligently.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You want to make drastic changes in your career objectives because you feel discontented but you should maintain the status quo and not make any alterations.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You may feel restricted, and ready to jump out of your gourd today, but it is the time to remain calm, cool and collected to make the right decisions.

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You understand how to expand in your interests in the morning, and later today you can get right at them and solve problems.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) This morning is fine for going after your personal ambitions and gaining them in a successful manner, but later do not be forceful towards any associates.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Get into the bustling business world early and get a good deal accomplished, but safeguard your reputation against negative situations.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You get fine ideas in the morning today and should carry through with them vigorously since later the aspects are not satisfactory.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You can improve your romantic life in the morning today, by doing something thoughtful for the one you love and the reaction will be reciprocated.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Using more modern mechanisms where your career activities are concerned can save time and energy today and gain you greater efficiency.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) You may get an invitation early in the morning today, which should be accepted and later clear up any blockage in your capabilities.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Endeavour to find some way of establishing greater harmony at home today in the morning, but don't upset anyone there this evening.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Some added phase to correspondence which will get quick attention would be wise today, but later tonight be more conventional in your attitude.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) This morning is the best time to come to decisions concerning any problematical affairs, and ingenuity will gain you more assets for the future.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You are able to gain your personal wishes today if you get an early start on them. Confide in your pals who can also be of assistance on a new assignment.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You get excellent ideas for your progress in the morning today, so note them down, but later tonight don't change any plans you have made.

**Birthstone of October:** Opal — Tourmaline

## THE Daily Crossword by Eugene Puffenberger

ACROSS

- Net
- Burglarizes
- Planned secretly
- breve
- Heaps
- "Have — day"
- Authentic
- Flat-topped elevation
- Lunar valley
- Game fish
- Gannet
- Disposable handkerchief
- NC college
- Town on the Thames
- Forbidden
- Unit of capacitance
- Judge's garment
- Baseball name
- Off center
- Vacuum flask inventor
- Tissue unit
- Weather stat.
- "A" — apple
- Toast
- Math term
- Sports org.
- Best of Ferber
- Liqueur
- Stringed instrument
- Gambling game
- Bellowing
- River of Belgium and France
- Perry's creator
- Old weapon
- Alcoholic beverage
- Avian weapon
- Goes by ox wagon
- of Cleves
- Makes lace

DOWN

- Corday's victim
- Resin
- Flat, broad pieces
- Drags
- Aircraft engine type
- Olive genus
- Winter pear
- Wager
- Clergyman
- British national flag
- Cultivate
- USC rival
- Hammer part
- Regretted
- Malicious look
- Native metals
- Kind of predicament
- Butterfly
- KS town
- Void's partner
- Domino or Waller
- Actor Baldwin
- Italy's capital
- Brandy type
- Judge's seat
- Mend
- Scottish garment
- Honors
- Consent
- Large snake
- Throw out
- Gibbs or Maples
- Dazzling display
- Distorts
- Certain European tree
- Not any
- Legal right
- example (for instance)

Yesterday's puzzle solved:

FADE KARA SLEW  
IVAN UMARS TETE  
FORTHRIGHT AFAR  
ENTREATS RATTLE  
— ALLY FOLEY  
SCRIPT MALINGER  
PAINS VAULT RIO  
ERGS DOLLS TOTO  
NTH CULET HAYES  
DETRACTS DESERT  
SHAH'S BRAT  
PATINA CLARENCE  
ARUN MYLEFTFOOT  
INFO PAINT UNIT  
REFS PODS LONE



## Peanuts



## Andy Cap



## Mutt'n'Jeff





**HOROSCOPE**  
**FORECAST FOR THURSDAY**  
**OCTOBER 12, 1995**  
**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) You are not permitted to influence a where important decision is concerned today. You are a have good judgement.  
**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) Your ideas may be different from those of a higher up at the time. It doesn't pump to any conclusion which could be erroneous.  
**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) You are sure to find out some things about your friends and loved ones and do so after new interest in the coming hours.  
**Cancer** (June 21 to July 20) Your intuition may be a working property today. You are to use your best judgement in your intuition has about a good measuring device.  
**Leo** (July 21 to August 10) You are entering a new phase in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Virgo** (August 11 to September 22) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.  
**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life. You are to use your intuition to turn into a great success in your life.

**business daily beat**  
 A review of economic news from the Arabic press

**Gas exists in huge quantities south of Al Rishah gas field**

★ **THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), Fakhreddin Al Daghistani, confirmed a previous report carried by Al Dustour that huge quantities of gas exist to the south of Al Rishah gas field. The quantities, Dr. Daghistani said, may enable Jordan to operate all its power stations in the future by gas. The NRA chief pointed out that the National Oil Company is drilling wells in the new field which, along with the 5,000-square-kilometre Al Rishah field, is considered a concessionary area for the company for 50 years. Under the concession terms, the National Oil Company would get 50 per cent of the discovered gas. Dr. Daghistani indicated that Jordan's problems in searching for gas were related to advanced technology which the company would overcome from its gas sale income and from leasing its experience and its drilling to the countries interested in exploring for oil gas (Al Dustour).**

★ **JORDAN'S OUTPUT of olives this year is expected to be 75,000 tonnes of which 60,000 tonnes will be allocated for producing olive oil and 15,000 tonnes for olive preserves. According to a senior agricultural official, the plantation of olive trees in the Kingdom has reached 70 per cent of all fruit trees plantations and covered 800,000 dunums planted with eight million trees. The official indicated that Jordan's olive oil is of the best quality in the world since it is free of any chemical treatment (Al Dustour).**

★ **THE INDUSTRIAL Estates Corporation responded favourably to the request of the Amman Chamber of Industry to postpone raising rents of buildings and lands at the Sabab Industrial City by five per cent for two years. In this regard, the corporation's board of directors agreed to freeze the increase for 1996/1997 (Al Ra'i).**

★ **THERE ARE 91 registered public libraries in Jordan containing nearly half a million books. The number of university libraries stand at 14 while at community colleges there are 53 libraries and at secondary schools 493 libraries. There are also 30 children's libraries and 80 specialised libraries (Al Ra'i).**

★ **THE FOOD and Environment Control Department at the Municipality of Greater Amman destroyed 5,656 tonnes of food unfit for consumption during the past three months. The department closed 691 shops for violating public health standards, issued 774 warnings and fined 2,033 establishments on health grounds (Al Ra'i).**

★ **THE FINANCIAL committee of the Municipality of Greater Amman (MoGA) is currently studying the 1996 budget which, according to sources, amounts to JD 62 million. Of the total, 60 per cent is for capital expenditure and 40 per cent is for recurrent spending. The deficit is about JD 5 million (Al Ra'i).**

★ **THE PALESTINIANS intend to submit eight projects at the economic summit in Amman. The projects will be in the sectors of transport, infrastructure, energy, industrial estates, vocational programmes and technology transfer. The Palestinian delegation to the summit will include 62 members headed by Yasser Arafat (Al Ra'i).**

**Israel's Koor prepares global share offering**

TEL AVIV (R) — Executives from Koor Industries, a powerhouse of Israeli industry, began a four-week road show Wednesday in preparation for the first global public share offering by an Israeli company. Analysts predict the November offering will be a success. "The company is very well managed. It is the most likely to succeed among private Israeli companies," said Keith Phillips of Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull. Because Koor, which means "melting pot" in Hebrew, is so diversified, "people will feel they are buying a little bit of Israel," he said. Koor — Israel's largest and most profitable holding company according to Dun Bradstreet — filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for an offering of 6.95 million American depositary shares, representing 1.39 million ordinary shares. The shares will be priced in early November. A possible pitfall is that many potential investors already own Koor shares traded in Tel Aviv, Mr. Phillips said. Koor plans to raise up to \$150 million from the offering, to be used to retire debt and expand in tourism, real estate and multimedia. It will also look for acquisitions abroad, especially Asia, in its core businesses: Building materials, telecommunications and electronics, chemicals, food and energy. Smith Barney for the first time has been chosen to lead a public offering by an Israeli company, along with Lehman Brothers. UBS will manage the offering in Europe while Schroeder Wertheim, Oppenheimer and BZW will act as co-managers. The ADSS, representing 10 per cent of the company's market capitalisation, will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the SEAQ in London. While some 60 Israeli companies are listed on Wall Street, most are traded over the counter. One Tel Aviv financial source, who asked not to be named, said Koor should be listed on the NYSE because "it will trade more like a blue chip." A Koor subsidiary — electronics maker Tadiran — trades on the NYSE as well as Tel Aviv. Koor's offering follows recent failures by other prominent Israeli companies to issue shares for the first time abroad. The Israeli market believes Koor will be different. The recent purchase by Shamrock Holdings, the investment arm of the Disney family, of 22.5 per cent of Koor, signals "to the world market that they made a due diligence and it is worth investing in Israel and in Koor," a financial source said. In the past four months, Koor's market value has grown from \$900 million to \$1.2 billion. According to UBS, the shares are still undervalued, trading at a price/earnings ratio of 9.4, compared with 18.5 average for the sector. Analysts say the Koor offering will be a test case for other Israeli companies wishing to venture into foreign markets. "Another failure will not be good news," Mr. Phillips said.

**Financial Markets**  
 Jordan Times  
 In co-operation with  
 Cairo Amman Bank  
 U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 10/10/95	Tokyo Close 11/10/95
Sterling Pound*	1.5781	1.5776**
Deutsche Mark*	1.4181	1.4183
Swiss Franc	1.1483	1.1513**
French Franc	4.9595	4.9753**
Japanese Yen	100.73	100.87
European Currency Unit	1.2930	1.2924**

USD FOR STD  
 \* European Quoting @ 100 U.S. CENTS  
 \*\* European Quoting @ 100 U.S. CENTS

**Exchange Rates** Date: 11/10/1995

Currency	1 MYR	3 MYR	5 MYR	12 MYR
U.S. Dollar	5.62	5.68	5.62	5.62
Sterling Pound	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.56
Deutsche Mark	3.81	3.81	3.81	3.81
Swiss Franc	1.98	2.00	2.00	2.00
French Franc	5.68	5.68	5.62	5.62
Japanese Yen	0.25	0.125	0.125	0.18
European Currency Unit	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65

Interbank bid rates for accounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

**Precious Metals** Date: 11/10/1995

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*
Gold	384.75	7.50	Silver	5.43	0.100

\* 10 Karat

**Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin** Date: 11/10/1995

Currency	Buy	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7120	0.7140
Sterling Pound	1.1219	1.1272
Deutsche Mark	0.5018	0.5043
Swiss Franc	0.6187	0.6218
French Franc	0.1433	0.1440
Japanese Yen*	0.7049	0.7084
Dutch Guilder	0.4481	0.4503
Swedish Krona	0.0444	0.0445
Italian Lira*	0.0443	0.0445
Belgian Franc	0.0444	0.0445

\* For 100

**Other Currencies** Date: 11/10/1995

Currency	Buy	Offer
Libanese Dinar	1.8720	1.8860
Libanese Lira*	0.04365	0.04445
Saudi Riyal	0.1895	0.1910
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3630	2.3610
Qatari Riyal	0.1944	0.1956
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2160
Omani Riyal	1.8430	1.8500
UAE Dirham	0.1935	0.1943
Greek Drachma*	0.2920	0.3245
Cypriot Pound	1.5175	1.5880

**LONDON EXCHANGE RATES**

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One U.S. dollar	1.3350/60
Canadian dollar	1.4212/22
Deutschemarks	1.5922/32
Dutch guilders	1.1526/36
Swiss francs	29.25/29
Belgian francs	4.9759/89
French francs	1608.4/9.9
Italian lire	100.98/08
Japanese yen	6.9490/90
Spanish crowns	6.2700/50
Norwegian crowns	5.5180/80
Danish crowns	1.4258/68
Singapore dollars	0.7644/49
Australian dollars	7.7309/19
Hong Kong dollars	

One sterling	\$1.5770/80
One ounce of gold	\$384.35/384.85

**First kosher McDonald's opens in Israel**

MEVASERET, Israel (R) — Religious Jews in Israel can now buy a big Mac without the cheese after the opening Wednesday of McDonald's first kosher restaurant. The fast-food restaurant in occupied Jerusalem's suburb of Mevaseret adheres to kosher dietary laws banning the mixing of dairy and meat products. It also closes on the Jewish Sabbath. "Delicious," declared Yael Hagag, who took the first bite into a kosher Big Mac, priced at \$3.20. The 11-year-old girl said her mother insisted she keep kosher. Burger King, McDonald Corp's main rival, already has a kosher branch in occupied Jerusalem. "This is a big market in Israel, where about 30 per cent are kosher," said Omri Padan, the licensee for Israel's 18 McDonald's franchises. Religious Jews do not mix milk and meat, adhering to the Biblical commandment in Exodus 23:19: "Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk." A Hebrew certificate under the bright red McDonald's sign attests to its kosherness. Getting it was not easy.

**Senior official of British Bank of the M.E. ends visit**

AMMAN — Mr. Aman Mehta, 48, newly appointed deputy chairman (designate) of the British Bank of the Middle East (BBME) has just completed a two-day trip to Jordan which included a reception for customers and government officials, visits to the bank's branches, meeting staff and reviewing operations. Mr. Mehta, accompanied by his predecessor David Howells, who is retiring, was welcomed by James Gibson, CEO of BBME Jordan. "Mr. Mehta has a wealth of international banking experience including four years in the Middle East with one of our sister companies in the HSBC Group, the Saudi British Bank," said James Gibson. Mr. Mehta, who is currently the chairman and chief executive of HSBC Holdings, Inc., based in New York City, said he is looking forward to his assignment with BBME which was one of the earliest members of the HSBC Group, dating back to 1959.

**UAE eyes \$3b in offset investment**

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has identified hundreds of projects worth more than \$3 billion which it hopes would be invested by potential arms suppliers under an offset scheme it introduced five years ago, officials said Wednesday. The UAE Offset Group (UOG), set up in 1990, has drawn up ideas for the nearly 600 local enterprises which could be carried out by foreign investors in participation with the local private sector. UOG chief, Badrudin, said. "The UOG deal flow contains an excess of 600 projects and project ideas proposed by offset contractors and local and international investors. This means UOG manages an excess of \$3 billion in offset obligations," he told an international investment conference in Abu Dhabi. Mr. Badrudin gave no details of the projects but the UAE is giving priority to the industrial sector to lessen reliance on unpredictable oil earnings, which account for more than 80 per cent of its total income. Under offset programmes, weapon exporters are required to reinvest in domestic projects that would yield up to 60 per cent of the deal's value in seven years. Any offset project must cost at least \$10 million. The UAE introduced offset deals in early 1990 in a bid to lure foreign investment into joint ventures and attract industrial technology. The programmes apply to military purchases but there are plans to extend them to the civilian sector, according to UOG officials. Officials have also spoken about plans to set up a \$1 billion company with the help of the U.S. Chase Manhattan bank to oversee offset projects and help foreign investors identify feasible sectors. The introduction of the offset coincided with plans by the UAE and other Gulf nations to bolster their armies following the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Billions of dollars are being spent every year on armaments. The UAE struck its biggest offset package with Giat Industries of France under their \$3.5 billion deal in 1993 to supply the Gulf state with 436 Leclerc battle tanks, some of which have already been delivered. Giat has already opened an office in Abu Dhabi and identifies nearly 20 projects in industry, banking, farming and other sectors. Giat officials said the projects would be jointly owned with the UAE private sector. Another venture involves a shipyard in Abu Dhabi to be set up by Newport News shipbuilding company as a pre-offer project in the hope the U.S. fire would win a major contract to supply the emirates with at least two frigates.

**JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET**  
 HOUSING BANK CREDIT AMMAN SECURITIES  
 TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179  
 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR WEDNESDAY 11/10/1995

COMPANY'S NAME	NO. OF SHARES TRADED	VALUE TRADED	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	NEW CLOSING PRICE
AMMAN BANK PSC	540	134915	247.000	241.000
JORDAN REGIONAL BANK	1699	7352	4.350	4.360
BANK OF JORDAN	800	2960	3.700	3.700
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	300	364	1.200	1.220
JORDAN CREDIT BANK	9200	11717	2.370	2.360
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	89775	112227	1.270	1.170
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	1431	1748	3.680	3.680
BEITY KHALIL INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	9700	21087	3.710	4.730
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	700	2276	3.400	3.390
WILADIA PSC INVESTMENT BANK	39008	36360	1.320	1.330
	2750	4223	1.540	1.530
<b>BANKS SECTOR</b>	159003	349647	INDEX NUMBER: 129.13	CHANGE: -0.013
JORDAN INSURANCE	10300	33475	1.300	1.300
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	800	1230	2.660	2.660
<b>INSURANCE SECTOR</b>	10800	34805	INDEX NUMBER: 126.77	CHANGE: -0.534
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	9355	18247	1.630	1.630
JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM	556	4726	8.650	8.500
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	316	837	2.650	2.650
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	1020	1020	2.080	2.080
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	1450	1521	1.060	1.050
REHABILITATION, REPAIRING & MAINTENANCE	8200	3336	0.680	0.680
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	9500	13380	2.300	2.290
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	4190	13380	3.220	3.220
AMMAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY	4850	6435	1.310	1.300
UNION LAND DEVELOPMENT CORP.	11519	12783	1.120	1.110
<b>SERVICES SECTOR</b>	43996	73171	INDEX NUMBER: 127.56	CHANGE: -0.084
THE JORDAN CREDIT FACTORIES	10246	36671	3.550	3.530
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	1240	11715	9.470	9.450
WOLFE INDUSTRIES	20150	43115	2.180	2.170
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	213	1026	3.280	3.280
AMMAN PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	932	4379	4.720	4.700
JORDAN CEMENT INDUSTRIES	1000	5980	5.980	5.980
THE JORDAN PAPER MANUFACTURING	50	124	2.470	2.470
JORDAN PAPER & CARBON FACTORIES	500	2000	3.990	4.000
THE PUBLIC WORKS	250	250	2.000	2.000
DAR AL BINA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	394	2889	7.940	7.230
AMMAN ALUMINIUM INDUSTRIES	100	517	5.170	5.170
AMMAN ALUMINIUM INDUSTRIES	39570	13408	1.420	1.420
AMMAN ALUMINIUM INDUSTRIES	1500	1391	1.070	1.070
AMMAN ALUMINIUM INDUSTRIES	1500	2501	1.750	1.750
JORDAN ROPEWORK INDUSTRIES	26500	28450	1.080	1.080
AMMAN CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	3750	15375	4.200	4.100
JORDAN CABLE CORDS	550	727	1.320	1.320
AMMAN CEMENT FOR PLASTER & CEMENTALS	1450	3014	2.100	2.070
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	1500	4767	3.200	3.170
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.	9500	18512	1.950	1.950
JORDAN NEW CABLE COMPANY	250	393	1.570	1.570
INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO & CIGARETTES	4050	5935	1.390	1.380
<b>INDUSTRIAL SECTOR</b>	164967	243284	INDEX NUMBER: 129.60	CHANGE: -0.344
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	378766	701107	INDEX NUMBER: 127.90	CHANGE: -0.187

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET: 147280  
 VALUE TRADED IN PARALLEL MARKET: 130432

**JORDAN MARKET PLACE**

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## Newcomer Philippoussis downs Edberg

TOKYO (AP) — Newcomer Mark Philippoussis of Australia blasted Stefan Edberg off the court 6-0, 6-2 Wednesday in the second round of the \$1 million Seiko Super Tennis tournament.

Edberg's slices and touch volleys weren't able to stop the 1.94-metre, fast-moving 18-year-old, who had two speeds on lightning serves and booming groundstrokes: hard and harder.

Edberg, a 29-year-old Swede who was once World No. 1, and a two-time champion here, has slipped to 20th in the rankings and was seeded fifth. His next match will be his 1,000th in 12 years as a professional.

"He was entranced today," Edberg said of his opponent, whom he beat in a tough four-setter at the Australian Open earlier in the year. "He was playing like from another planet."

Philippoussis, too, felt "very good" with his game and said his goal was to finish the year ranked in the top 50.

"The way I'm playing now, there's no reason why I can't play with the top players and beat them," he said, noting that he'd overcome Todd Martin, the sixth seed here, at a tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona, earlier this year.

Martin was broken twice and dropped the first set Tuesday but fought back to overcome England's Jeremy Bates, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Martin mixed serve-and-volley tennis with well-placed groundstroke passing shots to move into the third round against Henrik Holm of Sweden.

Holm served and volleyed his way on the fast indoor carpet over 12th seed mark Woodforde of Australia 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3).

Top seed Michael Chang easily handled Dick Norman of Belgium, 6-3, 6-4.

Former French Open champion and third seed Sergi Bruguera also had an easy time, handing world No. 134 Leander Paes a 6-3, 6-0 defeat in which he moved the Indian around almost at will during the second set.

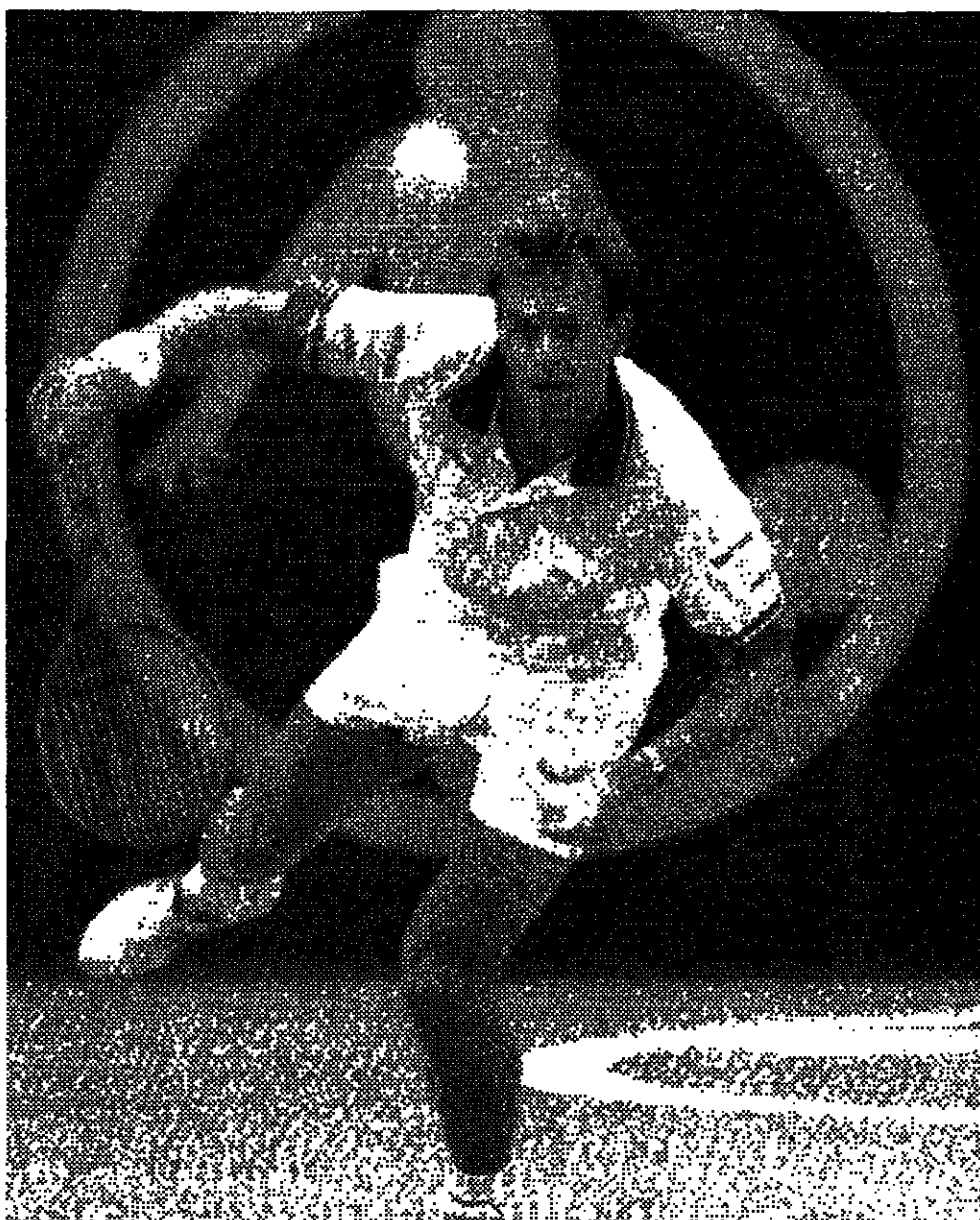
Philippoussis, in his first full year on the professional tour, last week reached a career-high rank of 60 after losing in the finals to Chilean left-hander Marcelo Rios in a tournament in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Rios, a slight, pony-tailed 19-year-old who leaves the ground on both right- and left-handed groundstrokes, lost Wednesday to American journeyman Jonathan Stark, 6-7 (6-8), 6-4, 6-4. Rios, ranked 27th and the 10th seed here, cursed himself disgustedly after he was unable to convert two break points in the final game of the match.

Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands, the seventh seed, fell to Hendrik Dreekmann of Germany, 6-7 (7-5), 6-4, 6-2.

In the day's first matches, ninth seed Alexander Volkov of Russia beat Dutchman Fernon Wibier, 7-5, 6-2, and 11th seed Brett Steven of New Zealand overcame Cristiano Caratti of Italy, 6-4, 6-2.

Steven and Philippoussis faces each other in the third round.



Fifth seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden concentrates on his serve during his second round match against mark Philippoussis (Reuters photo)

## Match ends when Kasparov agrees to a draw

NEW YORK (AP) — World Chess champion Gary Kasparov drew the 18th game of his championship match against Viswanathan Anand in only 12 moves Tuesday, winning the monthlong contest and the \$900,000 first prize.

The fight for the world chess crown actually was over on Monday, when the game ended in a draw, giving Kasparov a lead of 10 to 7. He needed 10.5 points to win the 20-game match. In the event of a 10-10 tie, Kasparov would have kept his title but been forced to split half the \$1.35 million prize money with Anand.

Kasparov, with the advantage of the white pieces, played for less than 13 minutes Tuesday before reaching the draw that secured his victory, 10.5 points to 7.5.

"I hope you all had a lot of fun with the event, especially today's nail-biting finish," Anand said laughing at the prize-giving ceremony on the 107th floor of the World Trade Centre, where the match began Sept. 10.

Anand will receive \$450,000 from the Professional Chess Association, which sponsored the match.

Kasparov agreed that the rapid end to the game "could be disappointing to the public."

"The match for the title was over yesterday," the 32-year-old Russian said. "We played four games a week ... and we are both exhausted."

The 20-game series started with a record-



Title holder Garry Kasparov of Russia (left) shakes hands with challenger Viswanathan Anand at the end of the Intel World Chess Championship (Reuters photo)

breaking series of eight draws. Anand won the ninth game, but Kasparov hit back immediately, crushing his opponent in the 10th game. He then won the 11th game after Anand made what experts described as "a hideous blunder."

Anand's error came in a position in an endgame that experts said was likely to end in a draw. After thinking for only a minute, Anand — known in Spain as "Vishy the quick one" — saw a chance to win and moved a knight

into Kasparov's position. Kasparov, playing black, lashed out with a rook sacrifice to win two pawns and regain the rook. Facing a hopeless position, Anand resigned two moves later.

Anand recovered to draw the 12th game, but went down in the 13th and 14th, leaving himself in a hopeless match situation. Kasparov was able to coast home with a series of draws in the final four games.

At the right moment,

he took his chances and I didn't," Anand said. "that made the difference."

Experts said the 25-year-old Indian never fully recovered from the shock of his blunder nor regained his psychological balance against his experienced opponent.

Kasparov said his victory in New York would be nearly as memorable as his first championship win, in 1985. He has successfully defended his title five times since then.

Kasparov said he was

pleased that, unlike previous encounters with arch-rival Anatoly Karpov, this match had "no animosity."

"I'm sure we are going to stay friends," he said. Intel, the computer chip maker based in Santa Clara, California, sponsored the championship.

Kasparov also said the match an important breakthrough for the commercial sponsorship of chess. "The era of professional chess has started," he said.

## Murphy makes winning return

CHEPSTON, Wales (R) — Jump jockey Declan Murphy made a victorious return to the saddle on Tuesday — 17 months after a sickening fall left him in a coma and fighting for his life.

He partnered the Geoff Lewis trained Jibreen to victory in a seven-furlong (1.1-kilometre) flat V jump jock-

eys challenge race. The 28-year-old Irishman came back to a hero's reception after making all the running on the heavily backed 3-1 favourite to win by three-quarters of a length.

"Words can't describe how I feel," said Murphy. "I've never thought there was a feeling like this in my life. I

just don't want to set off the cloud I'm on. What felt like a dream for 17 months has just become reality. I've achieved some good victories in my life but nothing like this."

Murphy fractured his skull in five places when he was kicked by his mount after falling at haydock last May.

## No place for \$9.6m striker

OSLO (R) — Expensive striker Les Ferdinand will not even be on the England substitutes' bench for Wednesday night's soccer friendly against Norway.

After losing out to Alan Shearer on Tuesday in the

tussle to spearhead Terry Venables' attack, Ferdinand was not among the five substitutes named on Wednesday.

Tottenham's Teddy Sheringham was preferred up front, despite scoring just

once in 10 internationals. Ferdinand, bought in June for \$5 million (\$9.6 million), has hit 11 goals for Newcastle since the beginning of the season, but Sheringham is possibly in the best form of his life for Spurs with 10 goals in the last six games.

The tourism ministry, which monitors all expeditions in this landlocked country, said Hisayoshi Tawaraya, 54, of Tokyo was missing after he scaled the Himalayan peak with a Nepalese guide last Friday.

Tawaraya reached the summit at 15:50 local time (10:20 GMT), but was reported missing since 23:00 local time (17:30 GMT), the government said in a statement.

It was not immediately clear if the Nepalese guide returned to the lower camp. Three other expedition members who climbed the mountain, 8,167 metres high, have returned safely, it said.

## Japanese climber missing in the Himalayas

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — A Japanese and two Frenchmen climbing Himalayan Mountains are missing, the government said Wednesday.

The latest person to go missing was a Japanese climber trying to scale Dhaulagiri-1. Two Frenchmen who tried to make a final assault on the Kanchenjunga peak, the third highest mountain in the world, have been missing since Thursday.

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## Indycar officials consider alternative to Indy 500

DETROIT (R) — Indycar tour officials said on Tuesday they are considering staging an alternative race to the classic Indianapolis 500 in May 1996.

Indycar officials called qualifying procedures announced by the Indy 500 a "lockout" because 25 starting spots would be granted to the rival Indy Racing League (IRL), organised by the Indianapolis motor speedway, leaving only eight non-IRL spots.

We have stressed on numerous occasions that our primary goal is to compete in the Indianapolis 500 in 1996," Indycar President and

## Indycar officials consider alternative to Indy 500

Chief Executive Officer Andrew Craig said in an statement after a board meeting in Chicago on Monday.

"Under the present format, however, the Indycar board of directors cannot justify the expense and risk of a race in which the fastest 33 cars will not necessarily qualify."

Indycar said a committee would study an alternative event for the Indy 500 weekend.

The Indy Racing League, portrayed as a return to traditional Indycar racing is to have its first event next January 27 in Orlando, Florida.

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**GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& TAMMAM HIRSH  
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**LUCKY DISASTER!**

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>
♠ 8 5 3	♠ K Q J 10 7
♥ 8 7 2	♥ 9
♦ 8 7 4	♦ 8 2
♣ J 4	♣ Q 10 8 5

**WEST** ♠ 8 6  
♥ J 10 6 5 4 3  
♦ Q J 8 5  
♣ 9 7

**SOUTH** ♠ A 4 3  
♥ A K  
♦ A Q 10  
♣ A K 6 5 2

The bidding:

<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠

Bidding calamities can befall anyone. We remember well one in a major championship — a world-ranked pair lingered in two diamonds doubled and vulnerable with a singleton ace opposite a low doubleton — no great success. Once in a while, however, an accident in the auction can reap an unexpected reward.

South intended two spades as a

one-bid, creating a forcing-to-game situation. North interpreted the sequence as showing a good spade suit, hence the pass. To take that position without any proof that East was searching would have been grounds for acquittal for any assault and battery charge that South might have committed against partner.

Not surprisingly, West led a trump, and the ten forced declarer's ace. Declarer decided that the contract stood no chance unless East held at least three clubs, so the ace and king of clubs were cashed and a third club was led. West discarded a diamond (ruffing would not help) and declarer ruffed.

A diamond to the queen won and another club was led, ruffed on the table when East pitched the jack of diamonds. Declarer finessed the ten of diamonds and, though West ruffed this trick, declarer still had to serve a heart and the ace of diamonds for a total of eight tricks — one trump, one heart, two diamonds, two clubs and two club ruffs.

That was an absolute top on the board. At every other table North-South were in two no trump or higher, with declarer going down one or two tricks depending on the defense and level of the contract.

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	<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>  Robert Redford, Demi Moore & Woody Harrelson <b>Indecent Proposal</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	<b>PLAZA</b>  Sandra Bullock & Bill Pullman in <b>While You Were Sleeping</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	<b>CONCORD</b> <b>CONCORD "1"</b> Adel Imam & Yusra <b>Birds of the Darkness</b> (Arabic) Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:45 <b>CONCORD "2"</b> Arnold Schwarzenegger...in <b>Conan The Barbarian</b> Shows: 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:15	<b>MUSA HIJAZIN</b> "Sumaa" in <b>Hi Citizen</b> daily at 8:30 p.m. Written & directed by Mohammad Shawaqfeh	<b>Presents</b> <b>"Peace Oh Peace"</b> in English every Saturday Show starts at 8:30 p.m. For reservation call 625155



## Promoter Don King's trial begins

NEW YORK (R) — Opening statements began after the jury was selected on Tuesday in the mail fraud trial of boxing promoter Don King at a New York federal court.

King has pleaded not guilty to charges of filing a fraudulent insurance claim after a 1991 title bout between Julio Cesar Chavez and Harold Brazier was cancelled.

The 12-person jury consists of nine women and three men. Four alternates — three women and a man — were also selected.

King filed a \$350,000 claim with Lloyds of London, the British based insurance giant, for what was termed "non-refundable training expenses" paid to Chavez, the world champion. King allegedly lied when he said the fees were not refundable.

If convicted, the 62-year-old King could receive up to five years in prison and up to \$250,000 in fines on each of the nine counts. King was sent to prison in the late 1960s after being convicted on manslaughter charges.

The Internal Revenue Service also is investigating allegations that King helped foreign fighters evade paying taxes in the United States and that King's promotional firm filed false tax statements.

The Justice Department has probed King's dealings for two years. The investigation began when King's former chief financial officer, Joseph Mafia, filed civil affidavits against King. Mafia agreed to cooperate with the Manhattan U.S. attorney's office.

King filed a counter complaint against Mafia with



Don King

New York's Board of Regents, which licenses accountants, blaming Mafia for any crimes that might have occurred. The board of Regents exonerated Mafia after an investigation.

In 1967, King was convicted of manslaughter for stomping Sam Garrett to death in Cleveland. King was

a bookmaker at the time and Garrett worked for him. King also killed a man in 1954, but the killing was ruled self-defense.

King also was indicted for tax evasion in 1985, but was acquitted. His secretary at the time, Constance Harper, was convicted and served a year in prison.

## Duncan Ferguson jailed for head-butt

EDINBURGH, Scotland (AP) — Scotland and Everton striker Duncan Ferguson

was sentenced to a three-month jail term Wednesday for head-butting another player. Ferguson, 23, becomes the first international player in British soccer to be jailed for an on-field incident.

A three-judge panel rejected Ferguson's appeal and ruled that a jail sentence was the appropriate punishment.

"We have reached the view we would not be justified in interfering with that sentence," the appeals court ruled after a 55-minute hearing. "In our opinion, in all the circumstances, the sentence of three months' imprisonment was intended to be an effective punishment and a deterrent to others. It cannot be described as excessive."

Ferguson showed no obvious emotion when the decision was announced.

"There is no further appeal," his lawyer, Blair Morgan, said. "That is it. That was the final appeal. I spoke to Duncan afterwards. He did not say very much. He had expected this to happen. He had expected the worst."

Peter Johnson, chairman of the Everton soccer club, attacked the sentence. "I am very, very disappointed that a young man who has a job that is no danger to society has been sent to prison for something that went on a football pitch and at the time didn't attract any attention whatever," he said.

The jail sentence had been imposed in Glasgow in May. Ferguson was freed on bail pending Wednesday's

appeal. Ferguson, playing for Glasgow Rangers at the time, head-butted John McStay of Raith Rovers during a Scottish Premier Division match last April.

It was Ferguson's fourth conviction and was committed when he was on probation for a previous offence.

Ferguson's lawyer, John Mitchell, told the appeals court the player accepted his behaviour was wrong and that the sentence was "excessive" and amounted to a miscarriage of justice.

"He entirely accepts now he should never have behaved in the way he behaved at that time, and that he bitterly regrets having done so," Mitchell said. "He accepts such behaviour is unacceptable."

## 3 soccer stars, businessman charged with match fixing

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — Three Premier League soccer stars and a Malaysian businessman appeared in court on match-fixing charges Wednesday in England's biggest corruption scandal in 30 years.

Southampton goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, Wimbledon goalkeeper Hansi Senger, former Aston Villa striker John Fashanu and businessman Heng Suan Lim are accused of taking part in a conspiracy to rig the results of two Liverpool matches.

All four were released on conditional bail until Dec. 1.

They are charged with conspiring between Feb. 1, 1991, and March 15, 1995 "with others known and unknown, corruptly to give and corruptly to accept gifts of money as inducements improperly to influence the outcome of football matches or as rewards for having so done."

Grobbelaar, the former Liverpool goalkeeper, is charged with accepting £40,000 (\$63,000) from Fashanu in London on Nov. 25, 1993 for fixing the outcome of the Nov. 21 Newcastle-Liverpool game.

Grobbelaar is also charged with accepting £2,000 (\$3,000) from his former Zimbabwean business partner Christopher Vincent on Nov. 3, 1994 at Southampton "for improperly influencing the outcome of a football match or matches."

Senger, 33, Wimbledon's Dutch goalkeeper, is charged with receiving £19,000 (\$30,000) from Fashanu in London between Oct. 21, Oct. 25, 1994 to fix the outcome of the Oct. 22 Wimbledon-Liverpool match. Liverpool won 3-0.

Fashanu is charged with making the two payments. The three players and the Malaysian businessman made their first appearance in Southampton magistrates'



Southampton's Bruce Grobbelaar (left) and Aston Villa's striker John Fashanu embrace as they arrive at the Magistrates Court (Reuters photo)

court. They spoke only to give their name, age and address.

Outside the courthouse, Fashanu and Grobbelaar greeted each other warmly with a hug.

All four were bailed on condition they do not contact prosecution witnesses Vincent or John Troup, the Sun journalist who first reported the allegations.

Fashanu's wife, Melissa Kassa-Mapsi, 29, was originally arrested and charged with the four men, but the crown prosecution service has dropped charges against her.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of seven years in jail and/or an unspecified fine.

The accusations represent the biggest match-fixing scandal in English soccer since 1965, when three top flight

players were jailed for accepting money to rig results.

Grobbelaar and the others were arrested in dawn raids on their homes last March following a four-month investigation into alleged bribes involving an Asian gambling syndicate. They were charged with conspiracy on July 25.

Of the three players charged, Grobbelaar is the most prominent. He spent 13 seasons with Liverpool and helped the club win 13 titles, including five league championships and the European Champions Cup. He has also been a standout for Zimbabwe's national team and is considered a national hero in the African country.

Fashanu has retired from soccer after a series of injuries and is now a host of the popular television series "gladiators."

## Renovations raising ruckus in Atlanta

ATLANTA, Georgia (Agencies) — Two billion dollars worth of construction has made life difficult for citizens in the 1996 Olympic host city.

And officials here say the worst is yet to come with the centennial Summer Games still 40 weeks away.

"It's going to get a little worse before it gets better," city traffic planning overseer Sandra Jennings said.

"Believe it or not, most people seem to understand why all this is going on. They just want to know why they can't get where they want to go."

The reason is because workers are digging up the street or closing down car lanes to erect Olympic support facilities. Most of the work is within a 1.6 kilometre downtown area where the greatest number of Olympic events will be contested.

"We will work through this," organizers spokesman Dirk Yarbrough said. "The only way we can satisfy the great majority of the people is to put on a dynamite Games."

Polls have found support dwindling for the notion of the Olympics being a good idea for Atlanta as daily life has become more difficult. Add major highway construction and national attention for the Braves baseball team and the problems are clear as time ticks away before the world arrives.

"You know what it feels like?" asked lawyer Rick Asbill. "It's like when you are in college and you wait until the last minute to start cramming for the exam."

"It makes you think about renting your house and getting out of town."

Many are doing just that, with nearly Nashville making a vacation pitch to residents here to escape the Olympic mayhem. Some apartment dwellers are being forced to move out so landlords can rent at much higher rates during the Games.

"I was thinking of leaving

town anyway, but this just pushed me over the edge," computer analyst John Obermeier said.

In Lausanne, Switzerland, China's sports minister met Tuesday with IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch but there was no word on whether Beijing plans to bid for the 2004 games.

The International Olympic Committee said Samaranch met with Minister Shaoyu Wu, who is also president of

China's National Olympic Committee, He Zhenliang, the IOC member from China, and China's world and Olympic table tennis head Deng Xiaping.

"Among the subjects discussed were the Chinese government's adoption of new laws on physical education and sport, with particular emphasis on anti-doping measures," the IOC said in a brief statement.

"Mr. Wu also informed the IOC on the

Chinese athletes' preparations for the games of the XXVI Olympiad in Atlanta."

There was no mention of bidding for the 2004 Games. An IOC official close to Samaranch said the Chinese stressed the issue is a "political decision" that is in the hands of the Chinese government.

The deadline for submission of bids is Jan. 10.

Samaranch said two weeks ago it appeared unlikely Beij-

ing would make a bid. "I am not very optimistic," he said.

Beijing lost by two votes to Sydney, Australia, in the highly-charged race for the 2000 Games. Since then, Chinese officials have hedged on whether they would try again for 2004 or wait for 2008.

Ten cities have expressed interest in bidding for 2004, with Cape Town, South Africa, and Rome considered the early strongest contenders.



The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games announced the design and fabrication for the front of the gold, silver and bronze medals to be presented to the winning athletes at the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia.

The image depicts Victory holding a wreath over her head and carrying a flock of palm leaves on her arm with depictions of ancient Greece to complete the design (Reuters photo)

## Norwegian police expel, detain British soccer hooligans

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Police on Tuesday deported two Britons with records of soccer hooliganism and were holding 10 others they feared had come looking for trouble at a Norway-England soccer match in Oslo.

"The two were sent back

because they had earlier been punished for soccer violence," said Oystein Berger of the Oslo police. He said one of them was linked to the violent British neo-Nazi group Combat 18.

Wednesday's exhibition match in usually peaceful

Oslo will be the English national team's first away game since a match in Dublin, Ireland, last February. That game was abandoned after 27 minutes because of a riot by English fans which 30 were arrested.

England fears that more violence by its fans could jeopardize its hosting of the European soccer championships.

Norwegian police, working closely with British colleagues, were screening arrivals to Norway to prevent known hooligans from entering the country and reaching the sold-out Ullevaal Stadium in downtown Oslo.

"The situation in Oslo is very quiet. In Oslo we have not had problems," Mr. Berger told reporters outside Oslo's police.

About 400 regular English

fans have tickets, although as many as 300 more were expected to try to come without tickets. Police and immigration officials were questioning many of them at the airports, ferry terminals and border crossings.

Under Norway's strict immigration laws, police can refuse entry to anyone convicted of a crime abroad, or suspected of entering with the intent to commit crime.

But Mr. Berger conceded that it was impossible to check all 100 land crossings from Sweden or prevent Norwegians from selling tickets to English fans.

Nine Britons and a Dane detained Monday night aboard a train from Sweden into Norway. Mr. Berger said they were being held at the Oslo police station while their identities and back-

grounds were checked. "I am quite sure that some of them will be sent back, but I don't know how many," he said.

The two sent home Tuesday were in a group of 10 arriving at Oslo's Fornebu Airport from Newcastle, England. Berger refused to say how police connected one of them to Combat 18.

Oslo's Verdens Gang newspaper said police found a black banner with the group's name and symbol, a human skull.

Two other English fans were arrested separately Monday night on charges of petty theft, he said.

Even under Norway's tough rules, police cannot detain or refuse entry simply because a visitor doesn't have a ticket to a soccer game, said Mr. Berger.

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The Delegation of the European Commission along with EU Member State Embassies and Cultural Centres, presents  
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European Community Chamber Orchestra  
in concert at the Prince Hassan Auditorium of the University of Jordan on Friday 13 October 1995 at 8:00 p.m.  
Ticket price: 5 JD (3JD for students)  
Tickets available at the Goethe Institut, the British Council, the Instituto Cervantes and the French Cultural Centre and at the venue.  
The Orchestra will hold a workshop with students of the National Music Conservatory on Saturday 14 October 1995 at 16:30.  
Revenue will be given to charity  
The British Council GOETHE-INSTITUT AMMAN



# Jordan gearing up to attract foreign investments

By Edmund Blair  
MEED

FOR THREE days in mid-September Amman played host to some of the men and women who are credited with moving the world's financial markets. Delegates from 57 North American pension funds, representing some \$500,000 million under management, met in the Jordanian capital and were taken on a tour of Jordan's most promising manufacturing ventures, such as the electronics and household appliances factory of Middle East Industrial Complex (Goldstar) and El Zay Ready Wear Manufacturing.

The September conference attracted none of the media attention that will inevitably surround another meeting being held

in the Jordanian capital at the end of October: the Amman economic summit. The summit will be the international stage for Jordan to show the world how far it has come since the debt crisis of the late 1980s. It will be an opportunity to put up for scrutiny the raft of legislation the Jordanian Parliament has worked on recently to further open up the economy. Under the auspices of King Hussein, the October gathering will be attended by, among others, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Russia's Foreign Affairs Minister Andrei Kozyrev and Shimon Peres, the foreign affairs minister of Israel. But all the ceremony of the summit will be for naught if investors like the group of foreign pension fund managers are not impressed by the govern-

ment's efforts.

During the past few months, ministers, parliamentary committees and the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament have worked hard to put together a package of measures that will reform the country's tax and investment codes and create a more attractive investment environment. The most important stage was achieved on Sept. 18, when the Upper House of Parliament approved the new investment law, paving the way for ratification by the King. The law will become effective in October.

## Incentives

The code provides incentives for investors in the form of tax exemptions, which are weighted in favour of less developed areas. An institution will be set up with the

task of encouraging investment and speeding up the process of registering and licensing new projects. The law also contains a commitment that all investment proposals will receive a reply from the higher council for investment, a body made up of ministers and business representatives, within 30 days of application.

"The law will promote efficiency and credibility," says Rajal Kossous, chief economist at Jordan Investment & Finance Bank. "If approval is not given then there are other processes to explain the motives. It will be more transparent."

The law also aims to ease the way for greater foreign investment, which mainly covers non-Arab investors. "The non-Jordanian investor will enjoy equal treatment under this law to the Jordanian investor," according to

article 24 of the law. A bylaw, which is due to be drawn up and passed by Parliament before the end of the year, will outline in detail any restrictions on the proportion of foreign ownership allowed, and is likely to include a 49 per cent cap on the foreign stake in indirect investment made in listed companies.

The same bylaw will also spell out a simplified mechanism for foreign investors to obtain permission to trade on the local stock exchange. The existing system, which involves each application passing through several tiers of authority including the prime minister's office, has proved a constant source of frustration to prospective investors. Under the new system, each application will require approval from the Amman Financial Market, a non-resident custodial account

with one of three local banks offering the service, and then the foreigner will be free to invest.

In addition to the investment law, a new tax code is still working its way through the legislature aimed at easing the tax burden on local companies. The corporate income tax ceiling will be lowered to 30 per cent, amounting to a 20 per cent reduction in some cases. The code will also include an increase in sales tax, which is expected to rise from the existing seven per cent to 10 per cent and is aimed to make up lost revenues from lower corporate returns.

A communications law has also been included in this batch of legislation and opens the way for greater participation of private finance in the economy. This was passed by the Lower House on Aug. 20 and allows the reorganisation

of the telecommunications sector, including privatising the state-owned Telecommunications Corporation.

For some foreign investors keen to invest in Jordan, this legislative action has come not a moment too soon. In fact, several foreign fund managers argue that Jordan's failure to act earlier has already left the country out of the first wave of investment which has already flowed into more open Arab markets during the past two or three years, including Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Oman.

A good illustration of the difficulties are those experienced by the Foreign & Colonial (F&C) Emerging Middle East Fund, which was set up in 1994 with the support of the International Finance Corporation. With capital of \$42 million dedicated to Mid-

(Continued on page 7)

## COLUMN

### 3 tenors announce first world tour

LONDON (R) — The three tenors — Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras — announced plans Wednesday to stage their first world tour. Opera's biggest figures said they would come together before nearly 300,000 people in five concerts starting in mid-1996. The three men have previously ruled out a joint tour, citing scheduling problems. Opera buffs have suggested clashing egos were the real snag. The Italian and the two Spaniards will perform in Tokyo next June, London and New York in July, Munich in August and Melbourne, Australia, in March 1997. Tickets are expected to sell out in days. "We are all delighted to be reunited together once more for this tour. We are greatly looking forward to performing in five very different cities," the trio said in a statement before a joint news conference. Previous performances — a 1990 concert in Rome at the World Cup Soccer Finals and one in Los Angeles four years later — reaped millions in royalties and the live recording netted huge sales.

### Simpson to marry at Fiji resort — paper

SUVA (AFP) — Football legend O. J. Simpson is planning to marry at an exclusive island resort in Fiji, a newspaper reported here Wednesday. Simpson, acquitted of double murder in a controversial verdict in Los Angeles last week, would marry his girlfriend Paula Barbieri at the Sheraton Vomo resort in the Nadi area soon, the Fiji Times reported. Dennis McElrath, owner of the resort, could not be reached for comment on the report. A big wedding is to take place at the end of October, a hotel source told AFP, but refused to say who was to be married.

### Postman jailed for stealing birthday card cash

LONDON (AP) — A postman convicted of stealing money from children's birthday cards to support his heroin addiction was sentenced to nine months in prison. Steven Watson, 22, also stole a bundle of cards from his postal sorting office in Leeds, the prosecution said in Leeds Crown Court. "One can understand the upset and the heartbreak that you caused by pinching £5 (£3) and £10 (£16) out of some boys' and girls' birthday cards," said Judge Trevor Kent-Jone. Mr. Watson pleaded guilty to four charges of theft including postal orders, vouchers and jewelry. Prosecuting attorney Nadeem Bashir said mothers had complained of missing birthday cards. Mr. Watson was caught after postal officials placed three envelopes, each containing a heavy £1 coin, in Mr. Watson's sack, and only two were delivered.

### Liz Taylor undergoes surgery

NEW YORK (AFP) — Elizabeth Taylor returned to the operating table to make her legs the same length, after hip-replacement operations in the past two years had left her with a limp. The 63-year-old actress underwent surgery Monday at Los Angeles' Century City Hospital. The 70-minute operation went well, her surgeon said.



TAISING FREEDOM: Palestinians released from Israeli prisons kiss the ground as they enter the Gaza Strip across the Nahal-Oz crossing. Israel freed nearly 900 prisoners this week as a part of the autonomy accord it signed with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Washington on Sept. 28. Nearly 5,000 Palestinians remain in Israeli jails (see page one) (AFP photo)

## 4 Americans, Dutchman win Nobels in chemistry, physics

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Four Americans and a Dutch scientist won Nobel Prizes Wednesday for research into the Earth's protective ozone layer and studies of sub-atomic particles.

The chemistry prize, for the ozone work, went to Mario Molina of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, F. Sherwood Rowland of the University of California-Irvine and Paul Crutzen of the Max-Planck Institute for Chemistry in Germany.

"Thanks to our good scientific understanding of the ozone problem — and very largely to Crutzen, Molina and Rowland — it has been possible to make far-reaching decisions on prohibiting the release of gases that destroy ozone," said the citation from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Although ozone is considered a pollutant at ground level, it protects the Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays at high altitudes.

The physics prize went to Martin I. Perl of Stanford University and Frederick Reines of the University of California-Irvine for work in sub-atomic particles.

Dr. Perl and Dr. Reines discovered "two of nature's most remarkable sub-atomic particles" — the tau and the neutrino, their Nobel citation said.

In the mid-1970s, Dr. Perl discovered the tau, a heavier cousin of the electron. The tau is highly unstable and decays in other particles in less than a trillionth of a second.

The first tau particles were probably created in the big bang that started the universe, but they have long since disappeared. So Dr. Perl had to create tau particles in a particle accelerator to study them.

The discovery uncovered a family of sub-atomic particles that the Nobel citation said is crucial for current theories of how nature's smallest particles behave.

Dr. Perl called the award "unexpected" and said he hoped it will help convince people his current work involving quarks, another class of sub-atomic particles, is "not a waste of time."

The Nobel committee cited Dr. Reines, who worked with the late Clyde Cowan, for detecting the first neutrino, called the electron anti-neutrino, in work that started in the 1950s.

Dr. Reines is in a hospital, according to Myron Bander, former chairman of the physics department at the University of California, Irvine. Dr. Bander declined to elaborate, but said the condition was not life-threatening.

Dr. Bander said Dr. Reines deserved the prize "for discovering this fundamental particle."

"This particle appears in all these radioactive decays. Now it has been used in astronomy and all sorts of other research. It is a key to our understanding of elementary particle physics."

Neutrinos stream out from the sun and star explosions called supernovas, making it possible to probe the innermost regions of stars. They

are produced along with energy, and to understand how stars and the sun produce energy "you need to understand neutrinos," said physicist Richard Steinberg of Drexel University in Philadelphia, who studies neutrinos.

Scientists are still debating whether neutrinos have mass. Neutrinos are extremely abundant, so if they have even a little mass they could help explain the so-called missing mass problem, which is that scientists have found far less mass than the universe appears to contain.

"We've known that Fred was worthy (of the Nobel Prize) since the '60s," Dr. Steinberg said. "It was just a question of which year it would be."

Americans have dominated the Nobel science prizes since World War II. More than one-third of the physics and chemistry laureates have been from the United States.

The winners of each Nobel will share \$1 million this year. They will be honoured during a ceremony in Stockholm on Dec. 10, anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the chemist who endowed the prizes with his fortune from inventing dynamite.

On Tuesday, American Robert E. Lucas Jr. of the University of Chicago won the Nobel Economics Prize. The Medicine winners Monday were Americans Edward Lewis and Eric Wieschaus, and German Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard.

Irish poet Seamus Heaney won the literature prize last week. The peace prize will be awarded Friday.

## Heavy fighting in Baidoa

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Fierce fighting erupted in the Somali town of Baidoa Wednesday, with witnesses reporting heavy civilian casualties.

The fighting was between local clan members and militia loyal to warlord Mohammed Farah Aided. At least 17 militiamen were reported killed and 28 wounded.

Earlier Osman Hassan Ali Ato, a rival of General Aided, said that his forces had won control of the key airport of Balidogle, between Baidoa and Mogadishu, from Gen. Aided's forces.

The airport fighting left at least two gunmen dead and nine wounded, Mr. Ato said.

It was the first major battle reported between the two factions since Mr. Ato split with Gen. Aided — accusing him of being a "warmer" — as U.N. troops withdrew from this lawless Horn of Africa country last March.

The former air force airport, at Balidogle, 90 kilometres southwest of Mogadishu, lies between the capital and the town of Baidoa, which Gen. Aided captured on Sept. 17 at the head of a column of 600 men.

Witnesses said sporadic shooting was continuing in the area Wednesday and that Aided militiamen were regrouping 20 kilometres south of the airport awaiting reinforcements.

## Iraq is braced for vote over Saddam

BAGHDAD (R) — School pupils chanted "Yes, yes to Saddam" and loudspeakers blared songs praising the Iraqi leader on Wednesday in preparation for an Oct. 15 presidential vote in which Saddam Hussein is the sole candidate.

Organisers say more than seven million Iraqis are eligible to say either "Yes" or "No" but are certain President Saddam will be approved. Only the north of the country, an autonomous area outside Baghdad's control, will not take part.

The election furor is an important display of President Saddam's grip on power after the embarrassing Aug. 8 defections to Jordan of two sons-in-law, one of which ran Iraq's weapons industry.

The defections prompted speculation in the West that President Saddam's rule was collapsing. But predictions of his imminent fall proved unfounded and the Iraqi government clearly wants its numerous enemies to know this.

Iraq said more than 600 foreign reporters had arrived in Baghdad at the government's invitation and would be given free access to observe the referendum.

However, an official newspaper criticised the influx of reporters, saying Iraq did not need their words.

"Jumhuriya accused 'some Western reporters' of what it described as 'premeditated and ready-made judgments'."

State television and radio ran special programmes. Streets and public buildings in Baghdad are decorated with placards. Saddam pictures and signs reading "Yes, yes to Saddam Hussein."

Tribal chiefs with kinsmen from the province of Nineveh were shown dancing on state television on Tuesday, some brandishing banners, swearing allegiance to President Saddam.

School buildings, used as polling centres, are festooned with ribbons and placards. State-radio and television run interviews with Iraqi intellectuals, politicians and journalists saying Iraq's future hinged on a unanimous "Yes" for President Saddam.

President Saddam has not addressed the nation since the ruling Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) unanimously renominated him for the presidency in September.

Iraqi sources said President Saddam will deliver an address to the National Assembly (parliament) shortly after his election in which he could announce new political guidelines for the nation.

The Oct. 15 vote comes after amendments to Iraq's interim constitution announced by the RCC a month ago that included a provision to elect the president through secret ballot.

## Beirut leaders agree to extend Hrawi's term, Assad reports

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's political leaders have agreed to extend President Elias Hrawi's six-year term which expires next month, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said in remarks published on Wednesday.

Mr. Assad's remarks, which angered exiled Christian Lebanese leaders, appeared to indicate that the thorny presidential issue has been resolved in favour of extending Mr. Hrawi's term rather than holding an election in November.

Syria's 35,000 troops in Lebanon make it the country's ultimate power broker and few political decisions are taken in Beirut before consulting with Damascus.

"In general, everybody was with the extension. All three, the president, Parliament Speaker (Nabih Berri) and Prime Minister (Rafik Al Hariri)," Mr. Assad told Egypt's Al Ahram newspaper in an interview published simultaneously by the Beirut daily Al Safir.

Government sources in Beirut say Syria prefers to stick with Mr. Hrawi as a known friend while it confronts serious regional problems and unfinished peace talks with Israel.

Opponents, particularly in the Christian minority who resent Syrian influence in Lebanon, see the proposal as a threat to democracy and say there are no exceptional circumstances that forbid holding regular presidential elections.

"Lebanon has become a Syrian colony in reality," Raymond Edde, a widely respected right-wing Christian and self-exiled head of National Bloc party, commented from Paris on Mr. Assad's declaration.



Elias Hrawi

whom oppose extension and are now watching a painful but funny staged act that touches the homeland's sovereignty."

Under the constitution, Mr. Hrawi's term ends on Nov. 23 and parliament must elect a successor. As incumbent, Mr. Hrawi is barred from seeking a second term but moves have been underway for months for parliament to change the constitution to permit him a one-off three-year extension.

Beirut newspapers quoted Mr. Berri on Wednesday as saying parliament will back any government proposal, or a request from Mr. Hrawi, for extension.

"If the project to extend (Hrawi's term) comes from the government I will back up this request together with the deputies... parliament and its chief will help the adoption of this matter. This, we say, frankly," Mr. Berri said.

Last month Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam said Damascus "treasures" Mr. Hrawi's achievements as president and that Mr. Berri and Mr. Hariri, an ally of Mr. Hrawi, favour an extension.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Egyptian faces trial under new press law

CAIRO (AFP) — The editor of a Muslim fundamentalist newspaper is to become the first Egyptian journalist to face trial for defamation under a tough new law raising the maximum penalty to 15 years imprisonment. Magdi Hussein, editor of the bi-weekly Al Shaab, will appear in court in Cairo to face charges that he defamed the son of Egyptian Interior Minister General Hassan Al Alfi, legal sources said Wednesday. Mr. Hussein was questioned in August by an investigating magistrate after Mr. Alaa Hassan Al Alfi complained about a story which, without naming him, accused him of insulting the manager of a Cairo hotel, the sources said. The editor said he was not seeking to defame anybody but simply wanted the interior minister to inquire into the facts of the case. The trial date has not been fixed yet.

### Palestinian shot within hours of release

NABLUS (AFP) — A Palestinian activist was shot and seriously wounded in the West Bank town of Nablus on Wednesday less than 24 hours after his release from Israeli jail, Palestinian sources said. A group of young gunmen, saying they belonged to the Fateh Hawks, came to where Said Kalbuneh was staying on Tuesday after his release. They dragged him outside and shot the 25-year-old fellow Fateh activist at close range, the sources said. Mr. Kalbuneh, who spent two years in jail for anti-Israeli activities, was one of around 900 Palestinian prisoners released on Tuesday under the West Bank self-rule accord with Israel. It was the latest in a series of violent incidents between rivals in Nablus, from where Israeli troops are to be withdrawn before the end of 1995. Tension has mounted as self-rule nears for the town of 105,000 people. Another Fateh Hawk, Nail Shbita, was kidnapped on Sept. 10 and shot in the hand before being released.

### Iraq returns remains of alleged PoW

KUWAIT (AP) — Iraq has returned the remains of a prisoner who allegedly died after his capture in Kuwait during the seven-month Iraqi occupation of the emirate, the national committee for the missing and the Prisoners of War (PoWs) said Wednesday. A committee official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press the remains of the prisoner were delivered a couple of months ago through the International Committee of the Red Cross. The government committee is in the process of verifying the remains by DNA testing in a number of Western countries, including the United States and Britain. He said Iraq has also given information on where two other prisoners allegedly were buried in Kuwait. The official would not provide any further details.

### Mentese protests Kurds' Nobel nomination

ANKARA (AP) — A Turkish cabinet member denounced the nomination of a jailed Kurdish politician for the Nobel Peace Prize, saying she might be prevented from receiving her prize if she won. A Turkish daily reported Wednesday. Leyla Zana, who was sentenced to a 15-year jail term on charges of Kurdish separatism, is considered one of the five leading candidates for the peace prize. Asked whether Ms. Zana would be able to receive the prize in prison, Interior Minister Nihat Mentese said, "I don't think so," the Turkish daily news reported. "But giving the award to someone who has not denounced terrorism, who is jailed for crimes related to terrorism, is murder." Mr. Mentese was quoted as saying. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday. Ms. Zana, a member of the defunct pro-Kurdish Democracy Party, was imprisoned along with seven other Kurdish deputies in March 1994.